

Novi's Chris **Bellamy leads** strong All-Area basketball squad Sports, B1

NOVI NUTSHELL

Road work

Ramps from both directions of Novi Road to eastbound 1-96 are closed through late October. The closure is part of a \$59 million



bridge and pave-ment rehabilitation project on I-96 and I-696 in Oakland County. Crews will resurface nearly four miles of I-96 in the City, result-

shutdowns. Travelers should also be aware I-696 is scheduled to close in both directions between M-5 and Telegraph Road April 17-20 for the Halsted bridge demolition.

Open house

The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) will celebrate nearly 48 years of service to Michigan during a 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. open house at the chapter headquarters, 40550 Grand River Avenue in Novi. For more information, contact Jaclyn Kochis at (248) 476-9000.

District forum

A community forum is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at the
Instructional Technology Center
to provide information and gather
input on the
proposed Novi
High School
Six-Period-



Six-Period-Day Schedule and to answer questions regarding

the proposed schedule. All stakeholders, including students, parents and staff are invited to attend.

City budget

The first Novi City Council budget work session will take place 6:30 p.m. Monday in council chambers at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. The second session will take place 9 a.m. Saturday, April 25. Both sessions are open to the public.

Guernsey

Guernsey Farms Dairy will open its doors to the public for a tour of its dairy products production plant 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 25. The tour is free, and guests are asked to bring a nonperishable food item or make a monetary donation to the Novi Food Pantries. For more information, call Guernsey at (248) 349-1466 or visit www.guernsey farmsdairy.com.

The cost of a Novi Signature Park

This is the third installment in a series of stories leading up to the May 5 election.

BY KELLY MURAD

Each individual, family and business handles finances in a different manner. And no matter the differences, it's safe to say people, whether risky or conservative with their investments, want to know the short-

and long-term financial impact. On May 5, Novi voters will head to the polls making a financial decision

increase to the parks, recreation and forestry levy, for the development of a Signature Park.

MILLAGE PROPOSAL

online at hometownlife.com

The proposal for a Signature Park, located on 73 acres on the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Beck roads, is the result of a land swap agreement with the Novi Community Schools district.

"The total value of Signature Park is \$23.4 million, in exchange for only having to pay \$15 million," said

to either support or oppose the .5 mill Mayor David Landry, noting the land cilwoman Laura Lorenzo. "My big-

worth \$8.4 million. City officials estimate the 25-year limited millage proposal will trans-late to an increase of about \$75 a year for Novi residents with a \$300,000

RECOVERING COSTS

market value home.

The proposed millage is expected to cover costs of building, operating and maintaining the Signature Park.

"I never talk in terms as if it doesn't matter, whether it's 75 cents or \$75,' said Novi resident and former coungest concern is that the cost won't pay for itself and that it will possibly require more taxes to continue operations in the future.

Sheryl Walsh, director of communications for the City of Novi, said another millage is not planned. The consultants hired by the city to

develop conceptual plans and a feasi-bility study for such a park, warn that community based multigenerational recreation facilities normally only

Please see PARK, A6



Novi Northville Montessori Center instructor Raji Bhaowat talks to Avneet Gill during a recent Friday morning lesson. The classroom's 4- and 5-year-old students were busy working on puzzles and quizzes.

An educational accomplishment

Montessori Center celebrates 25 years

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL

When Geetha Rao stepped onto American soil, she never believed she would be afforded the chance to foster a loving business approaching 25 years in the Novi community.
"I am so proud to be a citizen," Rao said. "I'm so

a am so proud to be a citizen," Rao said. "I'm so thankful and so loyal, and I'm so grateful they gave me this opportunity. "It's such a reward to see this." Rao, and her husband Keshav Rao, opened the

Novi Northville Montessori Center 25 years ago with the dream of bringing their familiar educational model to the

community. The center is a private preschool kindergarten and day care program mod-eled after the educa

tional style prevalent

NOVI NORTHVILLE MONTESSORI APPRECIATION PICNIC

1-3 p.m. May 31 Picnic at Lakeshore Park All current and former students and staff members are invited to attend.

For more information, call (248) 348-3033.

in India. The couple has been in the current Novi Road location for 20 years after spending their first five years of business in the First United Methodist Church of

'We've been in business for 25 years and our

strength is our staff," Rao said. Rao said most Montessori staff members have been with the school for 20 years, which is a testament to the quality of the center.

All of her educators, called directresses, have for-

mal Montessori training and are certified teachers.
Directress Nita Maley has been a center staple,
educating children for years.
"I think it is in my genes because my mom was in
her training when I was a baby," Maley said. "I'm very
impressed with Montessori."

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

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Please see MONTESSORI, A6

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Novi district faces \$3 million in budget cuts; public input desired

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL

Members of the Novi community are invited to attend three public meetings begin-



school board recommendistrict cut \$3 million from budget.

its upcoming School officials said they will compile their budget cuts and enhancements no later than tomorrow,

followed by the public input The first opportunity will

NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETINGS

■ NHS six-period schedule com-

munity forum: 7 p.m. April 20 Regular board meeting: 7 p.m. April 23

■ Budget community forum: 7 p.m. April 30 All meetings will take place in the ITC Building, 25345 Taft Road.

take place 7 p.m. April 23 at the regularly scheduled Novi school board meeting, followed by the invitation to attend a budget community forum 7

p.m. April 30. Superintendent Peter Dior

Please see BUDGET, A8



Neighbors protect 54 acres of natural Novi What started as a grassroots effort among Novi residents about four years ago led to the preservation of 54 acres of land along Meadowbrook

Andrew Mutch, who has been involved with the project since the beginning. Last month, city officials

10 Mile roads.

closed the deal on two pieces of property, east and west of Meadowbrook Road, which were acquired through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant.

"It's a success story for

Novi " said Councilman

This is a natural setting and we don't want it to beco an overdeveloped piece of property," Mutch said. "We can't change the use of the property without approval from the trust fund board, and if the city tried to sell the property we'd have to pay the state back the entire amount of the grant."

After the city approved plans in 2005 for property owner William Roskelly to ouild a residential develop ment on 15 acres of natu ral land on the east side of Meadowbrook Road, a group of citizens in favor of preserving the property came

together.
"Residents came out and said they didn't want to see it developed," Mutch said. "It was very emotional for a lot of residents. It affected them

directly."

More than 350 residents signed a petition in support of preserving the property, and an effort was organized, requesting the city to submit poard to fund the acquisition

of the property.
"We had 30 days to write the grant and pull together everything we needed to pul

was serving as president of Friends of Novi Parks. "It really was a huge accomplish ment because so much of it came together so quickly, and it was all grassroots efforts to protect the property."

Along with the grant application, Novi resident LuAnne Road, between Nine Mile and

Kozma produced a video to submit to the MNRTF board, highlighting the natural features of the properties, which include a portion of the Rouge River, regulated woodlands, wetlands and lakes. "The board loved it," Mutch

said. "They may see like 100 projects, so we had to make our one project stand out from all the others."

The city was awarded the state grant in December 2005, which covers 75 percent of the cost, requiring the city to fund the remaining 25 percent through a local match.

"The local match can actu-ally be dollars or the value or land." Mutch said. And local developer Claudio Rossi, of Mirage Development, offered to donate 36 acres of land in Orchard Hills subdivision west of Meadowbrook Road

to assist with the local match ing out to make this successful," Mutch said. "At any time either one of these property owners could have walked vay, but they stuck with us

for four years." The city appropriated about \$53,000 toward the local

"We got 54 acres for essen tially \$50,000, that's a pretty good outcome," Mutch said. "I would have loved to see this city owns those two pieces of property now that are pro-tected forever. Those were the last two pieces of undeveloped property in southeast Novi."

Cheer for the

hometeam

read today's

The Novi Fire Department responds to a coll-over two-car accident on Novi Road south of 13 Mile road on Monday, April 14

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Stealing Jesus, not so Holy

A framed Jesus print, zebra figurine and package of col-lectible pennies were stolen from a vehicle on Wilshire Court, near Pontiac Trail and West Park Drive, reports said.

According to the complainant, the items were in the backseat of her vehicle between 3 p.m. March 25 and 4 p.m. April 5.

she normally locks it, but finds because the lights flash when it locks and unlocks.

vehicle, and the woman said

are worth about \$300, reports

Missing tires A set of tires was stolen from a black Ford Fusion, while parked on Strawberry Court near Nine Mile and Haggerty roads, between 11 p.m. April 5 and 11 a.m. April 6, reports

ant, the vehicle was found rest ing on two blocks under the carport outside the Pavilion

The 18-inch wheels, valued at about \$100 each, and the Goodyear Eagle tires, value at about \$400 each, were all missing, reports said. There was no other damage

Former resident suspected of damage

observed to the vehicle.

2 Two vehicles were damaged

Other Street, near 12 Mile and the light at Grand River Avenu Napier roads, reports said. The vehicles were parked in

the driveway of a residence. A blue Dodge Durango was found with a hole in the right rear panel window, and the r window of a black Chevy Trailblazer was smashed out

The seven-foot storm door missing from the home and broken glass was found on the wooden deck. According to the complain-ant, the possible suspect was

living there one week prior. Skateboard ramp damaged

3 A bike and skateboard ramp in the driveway of a resi-dence on Willingham Drive, near 10 Mile and Taft roads, was damaged at about 2:30

a.m. April 4, reports said. While investigating a similar complaint in the area, officers found the ramp damaged and a for sale sign removed from the front yard. The sign was later found inside a basketball hoop. Officers checked the area, but were unable to locate the

sible subjects, reports

Too much wine

4 Officers were dispatched to Rock Financial Showplace during the Michigan International Wine Expo at about 5 p.m. April 3, reports

was removed from the building and wandering through the An officer observed the

driver of a purple Chevy Blazer slumped over while stopped at

approached the driver, reports A preliminary breath test registered the man's blood

River Avenue and Wixom

Road, and police smelled an

and Beck Road, reports said.

As the light turned green,
the driver raised his head and

drove through the intersection The officer followed the sus-pect vehicle and observed the

cle in front of him and weave in

A traffic stop was initiated at

the Mobil gas station at Grand

alcohol concentration at .23 The man was arrested for operating while intoxicated and transported to the Novi

Police Department, where he refused the breath test. A warrant to do a blood draw was received and the man was nsported to Providence Park Hospital, where he told the nurse to "bring on the fight."

Laptop stolen 5A vehicle parked in the 3 driveway of a residence on Halifax Lane, near Nine Mile

and Beck roads, was broken into between 9:30 p.m. April 2 and 6:30 a.m. April 3, reports

A black leather briefcase which contained a passport, travel visas, Dell laptop, iPod touch, three network cards a an electric razor, was missing from the backseat of the

The unknown suspect broke the window, without setting off the alarm or unlocking th

12 Mile Rd. 12 Mile Rd. 11 Mile Rd. 9 Mile R

Drunken driver backs into about 11:30 p.m. April 4,

parked car 6 Officers handling a fight in the parking lot of Buffalo Wild Wings in Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk near 12 Mile

8 Mile Rd.

reports said.

Police saw the driver of a silver Ford Escape, get out of her vehicle to examine the damage of the parked vehicle she backed into. While approaching the driv-er, the officer noticed an odor of intoxicants, reports

said. The woman said she turned down the aisle then realized it was blocked by police cars. As she reversed, she accidentally hit the

8 Mile Rd

parked car, reports said A preliminary breath test registered her blood alcohol

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Abbey Park at Mill River

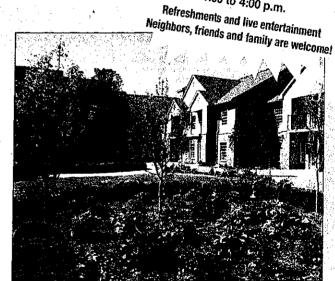
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Thursday, April 16, 2009

CHAMBER CHAT

y Northwood University

City of Novi. Novi Chamber

of Commerce, Twelve Oaks, Old Maid Cleaning Service,

Mercantile Bank of Michigan

and EverClean Restoration &

· New Summer BBQ Rib

exhibitors and judges. The

West Oakland Rib Cook Off

Grand River Ave. The all-day

erce, was recently

and Family Fest, please con-

tact Linda Daly at the Novi

event will feature as many

Cleaning Services.

Strictly Business

• The Novi Business and

Taste Expo will take place from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, April 29,

at the Hotel Baronette, 27790

business expo presented by the Novi Chamber of Commerce

and the City of Novi. Join us

Novi Road. The first small

BUSINESS MILESTONES

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

Baskin-Robbins hirty one Cent Scoop Night is back at Baskin-Robbins, America's favorit peinthorhood ine cream shop is

🗼 hosting its third annual 31 Cent Scoon Night celebra lion 5-10 p.m. Wednesday, April 29 at all Baskin Robbir locations nationwide, including the Novi location at 39415 W 10 Mile Road During the event, the iconic ice cream brand will thank its loval customers by reducing the price of all 2.5 oz. ice cream scoops and will donate a portion of the proceeds to local fire

Pheasant Run Plaza

Stay, shop, save local - and party locally, loo! Join the merchants of Pheasant Run Plaza in Novi on Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26, as they celebrate spring during a special two-day "Party in the Plaza." Pheasant Run Plaza is located on

Grand River Avenue, just West of Haggerty Road. The weekend event will feature great deals and discounts, fun events and activities for the entire family, and a food-and-funds drive to benefit Gleaners Community Food Bank, Raffles, discounts, deficious free samples from restaurants, games and prizes, and other special offerings will all be part of the fun from noon to 5 p.m. each day. On Sunday. April 26. from 2-4 p.m., players from the OHL's Plymouth Whalers will be on-site for conversation and autograph signing

for all the hockey fans. Gina Agosta Haircolor * Design & Spa Gina Agosta Haircolor * Design & Spa is hosting an open house 1:4 p.m. Sunday, April 26. Learn about new soring trends to update your look

through live stane demon strations. Enter to win our grand prize of free services or a year. Enjoy complimen tary services and retail spe-cials, Call (248) 477-2266 or visit www. agosta.com for more information.

Guernsey Farms Dairy Saturday, April 25, from II a.m., to 3 sey Farms Dairy will open its doors to the public for a tour of its dairy products production plant. The tour is free, and quests re asked to bring a non-peris able food item or make a monetary donation to the Novi Food Pantries The family friendly event will fea-ture free samples of all Guernsey Farms Dairy products. There will and more. For more information call Guernsey at (248) 349-1466 or

farmsdairy.com

Art Van Furniture

City of Novi 3 8 Mile Rd.

Through its Caring For Our Home program, Art Van Furniture will once in celebrate Arbor Day by donal ing 3,000 spruce trees to area schools and organizations for planting. The groups will plant the trees as part of regional beautification projects and educational programs. Also, stop by any Art Van store to receive a frepacket of vegetable seeds. While supplies last.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TDA Insurance & Financial Agency Novi-based TDA Insurance & Financial Agency, LLC joined the Trusted

Choice@ brand movement, a national consumer hrand that educates consumers about the benefits of using independent insurance agencies and brokerage firms for their insurance and financial services needs. Trusted Choice@ agencies offer consumers a broad selection of insurance policies and financial services products customized insurance coverages as well as advocacy support. Visit TDA online at www.tdanow.com or call (877) 832-6690.

Botsford Hospital Botsford Hospital sent out its first tweet on the social media Web site, Twitter. The first tweet was about a community open house at Botsford's new cancer center on Saturday, April 25. How can you follow Botsford Hospital? Sign on to the Web site www.twitter.com, and you can start following Botsford Hospital. The Botsford Center for Health Improvement has also joined the social media sile, Facebook, Botsford's Center for Health Improvement is located on Grand River Avenue, west of Haggerty Road in Novi.

NEWSMAKERS

for this exciting networking opportunity. About 60 loca ousinesses will have vendor tables and share information about their services and how they can benefit you both onally and profession lly. Featured vendors will include Hampton Inn Detroit/ Novi, Red Level Networks, Skyline Exhibits & Services, Famous Dave's, EverClean Restoration & Cleaning ervices, Harbor Oxygen Abir Farai, DDS, Financial Heating. Cash bar and compli mentary appetizers provided by: Biggby Coffee, Virginia Barbeque, Famous Dave's, California Pizza Kitchen, Nestle Toll House Caffe and Thru-U.com has opened a Novi office and plans to expand its staff. The company, based in Ireland, creates Hooters. Relationships matonline technical and safety training for engineers, technicians and opera-

EXPANSIONS

tors. Thru-U.com opened its office in

Novi last fall and currently employs

one person there; however, it plans

to expand by at least two people this

GIVING BACK

Red Robin Novi, owned by the Ansara

Restaurant Group, recently partici-

pated in a contest to raise money for

leam members in need. All Red Robin

locations in Michigan were challenged

by their Regional Managers to collec-

Fund. The Novi location won the con-

test, raising over \$1,000 in two week

As a reward, all Red Robin Regional

managers will spend April 21, from

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. serving tables for

charity. All tips the regional managers

collect will be donated to the Giving

OPENINGS

CLOSINGS

Tuesday Morning

(248) 449-1776

My Photographer

44325 W 12 Mile Road

42875 Grand River Ave

Thru-U.com

Red Robin

as fifty BBQ Rib Teams, live music, local restaurant tast-ings, family activities including a furry creature petting 200 and much more. Experience West Oakland, a committee of the Novi Chamber of granted a sanction from the Memphis Barbeque Network for the inaugural event, which will offer BBQ competitors the chance to compete for Prize Packages totaling \$10,000. A panel of 40 professional and ter! Keynote Speaker Tara Michener, presents "LinkedIn Facebook, Twitter - Making amateur judges will determine the contest results. The Grand Prize Winner will be invited Sense of Marketing on the Internet." The cost is \$5 at the to'compete in the "Memphis n May" Barbeque Networl door. Doors open at 2:45 p.m. Pre-registered guests only will be entered to win a \$250 gift Finals, May 2010. For addi tional information about the West Oakland Rib Cook Off

Chamber of Commerce, (248) orizes. The event is sponsored 349-3743, or e-mail info@ novichamber.com.

• The Novi Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Relational Church will hold a Job Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 767-8626 for

 The Novi Chamber of and Family Fest, will take place Sunday, Aug. 9 at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Commerce presents a new Diversity Round Table with the mission to celebrate diversity among Novi businesses at noor on the fourth Wednesday of each month. A Novi Chamber of Commerce member restaurant will host each meeting. Network with local business owners, share your experiences and teach/learn about the business practices of other cultures. The first meeting will take place noon April 22 at Mirchi Indian Cuisine, 43317 Grand River Ave. Register at www.novichamber.com or by calling the Novi Chamber of Commerce (248) 349-3743.

 The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber offering a variety of events, educatio programs, an enhanced Web and involvement with local charities. For membership information, visit www novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743.

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's section

card to Twelve Oaks. Hourly

door prize drawings for other



(248) 347-4450



Keith Wilson

LaFontaine Buick-Pontiac-GMC-Cadillac in Highland is pleased to announce Keith Wilson has joined their family of automotive professionals Mr. Wilson has 50 years of experience in dealership oper tions. He is a pioneer in the field of customer satisfaction and community relations.



Shawne Duneron

Five-time EMMY® Award winner and Novi resident Shawne Duperon, of ShawneTV, is hosting a series Shawnel V, is hosting a series of seminars, "Outrageous Marketing: How to Get Gobs of Free Publicity in Turbulent Economic Times." The series gives attendees the tools needd to grow a business. For more information, visit www.pontiacchamber.com.



Chair Richard Rassel mounced the station con pleted its \$22 million capital campaign — the first ever in the station's 54-year history. The good news comes despite a challenging economic climate and in time for the unprecof digital broadcasting.



Steve Caltrider joined Farm Bureau Insurance as a new agent serving the area from 47680 Grand River in Novi. He recently completed an extensive career development program for new agents, which prepared him for the state licensing examination and provided instruction in all areas of prop-erty, casualty and life insurance. Caltrider's training included the agent career school at the Farm Bureau Insurance home office in Lansing. Prior to joining Farm Bureau Insurance as an agent, he had an extensive career in the mortgage and real estate industry.



Just because your business is small doesn't mean you can't think big.

Big ideas for growing businesses like yours. Join sawy small business owners and entrepreneurs to learn tips for smart marketing in tough economy, trends in social media for small businesses, as well as for success story by Jim Hiller of Hiller's Markets.

hird Annual Small Business Conference ednesday, May 6, 2009, 8 am - 1:30 pm EGISTER TODAY 248.823.1384 or waishcollege.edu/smallb

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online at hometownlife.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MORTHWU CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit first Sunday Worship TIME: 9:30, 11 a.m Walking in the Park TIME/DATE: 10-ff a.m. every Saturday LOCATION: Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads) **DETAILS**: Group meets for lunch after

CONTACT: Sue (734) 459-0016 TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. social time: 7:49 p.m. opening; 8-9 p.m. program, every

DETAILS: Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5 per person. Check Web site for details single place.org.

OAK POINTE CHURCH LOCATION: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit oak

Worship Services TIME: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 and II:15 a.r. ReNew Life Ministries

TIME/DATE: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday **DETAILS**: Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth, healing, learning and change from a Christian CONTACT: For more information or to

register call (248) 912-0043 or visit oak TIME/DATE: 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday

DETAILS: Studying the book "Surviving a Spiritual Mismatch in Marriage CONTACT: Joy Ruby at joy@oakpointe.org or call the church.

ENEST LINITED METHODIST OF KORTHVILLE A Stephen Ministry church LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 349 1144 or fumcnorth

Sunday Worshin TIME: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. Coffee hour at 10:15 a.m. TIME/DATE: 4 p.m. first Monday of every Radical Joy

TIME/DATE: 6-8 p.m. first and third Thursday of every month. DETAILS: All women seeking to strength en their faith and connect with other women are invited to attend, irrespective of churcifattiliation Logos Youth Club TIME/DATE: 5:15-8:15 p.m. every

nesday, through May. **DETAILS:** For children in grades 4-12. Every week, this four part program includes Bible study, dinner, choir/worship and

NOTI UNITED METHADIS LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com Sunday Worship TIME: 9:45 a.m.

leafing Service and Holy Communion TIME/DATE: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of Peace Yigh TIME/DATE: Noon, first Sunday of every

LOCATION: In front of the church **DETAILS**: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in

Advent Service TIME/DATE: 9:45 a.m. Sunday Spring into Summer TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday,

DETAILS: Annual Juried Art/Craft Show Go to www.umcnovi.com to view some las years yendor booths. All hand made crafts including but not limited to painting, sculpture pottery, jewelry, needlework lawn art, doll clothing, photography, glass, ss wood carving and scrolling sewn items, stone work, candles, wine lamos, children's books, face painting, frames, mud mats and UMW bake sale. CONTACT: For an application to this jurier show, e-mail your request to Pam Davis. Church Yard Sale - Open to The Public TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday, May 1-Saturday, May 2 **DETAILS:** Saturday Noon - \$2 Bag Sale. Furniture, appliances, clothing, toys, and

WARD FYINGETHEAU PRESENTERIUM CHURCH LOCATION: 40000 Six Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 374-7400 or (248) 374-5978

Please see CHURCHES, A16

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Saints & Angels

The Northville Art House announces the opening of Saints & Angels: Colonial Arts of Latin America, a retrospective exhibition featuring 50 paintings and sculptures culled from a private Michigan collection, with a reception from 6-9 p.m. on Friday, May I and will be on view through May 24 in the main gallery at 215 W. Cady Street, Northville. The exhibition will feature works by anonymous artists and artisans, with the majo focus on 18th century religious paintings from Latin America and 19th century Mexican Folk Retablos - small paintings of images on sheets of tin. The older pieces show Virgins, Saints, Angels and Christ ligures with absorbed expressions. Far from being somber, many of the images are in elegant laces, satins and velvets: some with plumes or armor. The origins for the 18th century paintings were art academies established by new world priests to train native Indian artist. The works were generally inspired by European religious etchings. The local artists adapted the original images and the art evolved into a unique Latin American style to include native flora and fauna in the background, gold gill decoration, and brilliant use of reds and blues. For additional information, contact the Northville Art House at (248) 344-0497, go to the Web site at www. northvillearts.org, or visit the gallery, 1-5 p.m., Thursday-Sunday. The Art House is a facility of the Northvill Arts Commission through the City of Northville. Admission to exhibits is always free and open to the public.

Please recycle this newspaper #TMOVIE IN AMERICA! THE BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR! MILEY CYRUS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES: CHECK IOCAL LISTINGS OR TEXT HANNAH WITH YOUR ZIP CODE TO 43KIX (43549) or visit Disney.com/HannahMontanaMovie



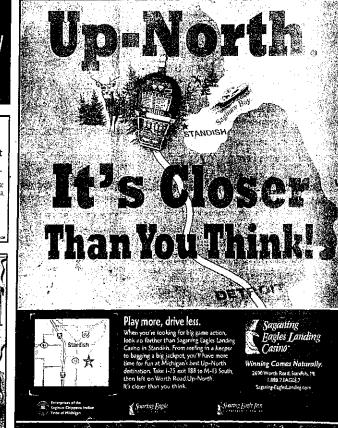
AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE





THE MOOSE GRILLE Located inside MOOSE RIDGE GOLF COURSE Live Entertainment every Thursday!

Friday Night - Fish Fry (all you can eat) Also try our all you can eat Perch Dinner! **DRINK & DINNER SPECIALS NIGHTLY!** Come and enjoy a relaxing atmosphere! Open Wednesday through Sunday 11801 Doane Road • South Lyon **€ 248.446.903**0



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PROPOSED

SITE PLAN

A Roulevarded Primary Entry

B. Fishing Dock/Pond Overlook

E1. Senior and Barrier Free parking

H. Flexible Fields for Sports/Festivals

. Themed Custom Play Equipment

Overhead Transitional Feature

F. Boulevared Secondary Entry

J. Sculptural Plaza or Garden

LEGEND

C. Expanded Pond

O. Cultural Plaza

E. Parking for 450

E2. Service Entry

G. Event Plaza

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L. Parking

M. Allee of Flags

t. Treetops Walk S. Treehouse

. Adventure Play

V. Peron Stairs

N. Dog Park (4 ac.) O, Upland Meadow Tail

P. Marsh Viewing Shelter Q. Marsh Overlook

U. Trail Connection to County &

Regional Trail Network

NOVI BRIEFLY

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, April 16, 2009

Road construction

Northbound and southbound Novi Road entrance ramps to east bound Interstate 96 wo close Tuesday night, until late October. Also expected were east-bound I-96 traffic lane shifts to the nside median shoulder, maintainndustry categories. ing three lanes from Beck Road to the I-696/M-5/1-275 interchange

Job seekers workshop and health fair

The Novi Chamber of Commerce and the Relational Church are hosting a Job Seekers Workshop and Health Fair from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Saturday, April 25 at the Novi Civic Center, located a 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. The event is free and open to the

The workshops include presentations by Walsh College and Davenport University; along with resume writing and interviewing

Health fair participants include the Oakland County Health Department, Sports Club of Novi, St. Mary's Health Group and the dental van with services for kids and adults.

Oakland County Economic Luncheon

Top economists from the University of Michigan will present their report on the economic future of Oakland County at the 24th annual Economic Outlook Luncheon on Thursday, April 30 at the Rock Financial Showplace The cost for the hincheon, scheded from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. i \$40 per person.

Anyone interested in attending the event can register online at www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar/ outlookhmeh.html

George Fulton and Donald Grimes, economists with the Institute for Research on Labor

Employment and the Economy at the University of Michigan, will present the 2009-11 Employment Forecast for the county, which includes forecasts for total employ ment in private manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors with breakdowns for various

> For more information, call Nancy Nagy at (248) 858-8706.

Java and Jazz Jam with the Tony Lannen Trio

Biggby Coffee at Grand River e and Novi Road is host-Thursday April 30, Doors open at 9:15 p.m. with music beginning at 9:30 p.m. A \$5 music donation will be collected at the door and drink specials will be offered throughout he night. Musicians are welcome to bring their instruments and join the jam, with music provided by the Tony Lannen Jazz Trio, which can be found at www.myspaceusic.com/tonylannen or www.

For more information contact Debbie Lannen (248) 739-0987 ca Biggby Coffee (248) 596-0100.

Meijer helps re-stock Hospitality House

Meijer is re-launching its gram to help restock the shelves of local food pantries, including Hospitality House in Commerce Township, which serves Novi residents. The program, which runs through May 30, encourages Meijer shoppers to purchase a \$10 Food Pantry Donation Card found throughout the store, as well as inside Meijer gas stations and convenience stops. The donation cards will then be converted into Meijer gift cards and given to the local food pantry. Meijer will donate \$100,000 in grocery gift cards, divided equally among the 185 par

ROBERT N. JANES

at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 330 E. Liberty, South Lyon, Memorial

contributions may be made to the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Online

guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

JOHN M. LLOYO Known by many as 'Jack Lloyd', age

94, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2009. He was born May 25, 1914

n Sharon, PA to John A, and Mary

(Morrison) Lloyd. He was united in marriage to Jean Elizabeth Hazlett on April 26, 1941, His business

career took him to many places in

dren, one great-grandchild and his beloved friend, Martha Schwaninger. A host of other close relatives and

dear friends also mourn his passing A Memorial Service will be held a

A Memorial Service will be held a Highland United Methodist Church 680 W. Livingston Rd., Highland May 4th, '2009, time pending. For further information contact Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors, Milford at 248-684-6645 or visit. www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

ROBERT M. MAIR

Age 76, of South Lyon, formerly o Hawks, Fenton, and Plymouth, passed away peacefully April 8, 2009. A service was held last

Saturday at Casterline Funeral Home. Inc. Contributions to St. Andrew's

BRENDA L. BOYER Of South Lyon, previously of Age 80, passed away on Easter Pymouth. Passed away peace-Sunday, April 12, 2009. He was born fully at her home alter an on August 9, 1928. In Ann Atbor, to extended illness on April 4, 2009. The late Albert and Ruth (Austin) eviended illness om April 4, 2009. The late Albert and Ruth (Austin) She was born March 26, 1940 to the Janes, He was a lifetong resident of late William A. Foreman, of the South Lyon area, a member of Northville, and the late Marquerite E. Immanuel Lutheran Church and a Fillmora, of Plymouth. Survived by council member for 50 years. He her devoted hisband of 50 years, was a member of MacArthur's Honor Donald L. Boyer and foving mother Guard and had worked for over 30 to Ooma (DeWayne) Mallett and years as a Process Engineer. Robert Daniel (Sheila) Boyer, all of South years as a Process Engineer. Robert DeAma (Eric) Stephens of years Bernice (Melchert); his childent of the Common Mallett of South Lyon, Carol (Kerry) of South Lyon, also great-granded Damevorth of Attica. Keith (Julie Tenton Stephens, Sister of Gail Russell) Mecklenburg of Northville. (Shannon Raymout) Janes of Interment: Oakland Hills Memorial (Sheind, Chery) (Mark) Schembrot Gardens. Memorial Service will take

Interment: Cakland Hills Memorial
Gardens Memorial Service will take Howels Shilings: Warren (Hoy Xilen)
place at Crossroads Community
Church of South Lyon at a later date.

KENNETH C. CAMBRA
Age 66. of Northville, passed away
peacefully at home April 11. 2009. a Hotel Charles Firits of Ann. Arbor: 13
grandchildren, and six great-grand-grand-grand service was held last Wednesday of Howels. The Cartefuline Funeral Home, Inc.
Contributions to 15 Jude's Children's
Research Hospital appreciated.

Westland, Cheese; Marily (New Jr.)
Anne of Reese; Marilyn (Own Jr.)
Schilaug of Belleair, Fl. Judy
(Charles) Firits of Ann. Arbor: 13
grandchildren, Wisilation Wednesday 5pm. Thursday 1-9pm at PHILLIPS
Street (Ten Mile), South Lyon.
Funeral Service April 17, Friday at
Research Hospital appreciated.

DOUGLAS L. FAULKNER

Age 67, passed away April 10, 2009. He was born on July 21, 1941, to the late Louis and Edna (Garwood) Faulkner He gradualed from Farmington High School in 1959. On October 25, 1969, he married his write Barbara Andrews. He was tormetry of Farmington, or for to moving nerly of Farmington, prior to moving a South Lyan in 1976. He was a tormer South Lyon Electrical Inspector. He was member of the National Service Managers Association, and ssociation Sou Ihe Ham Radio Association South Lyon Chapter, Douglas is survived by his wife Barbaia Faulkner, brother Nicholas (Lucy) Faulkner, sister-in-law Galf (Alan) McDonald, two nephews David and Mark McDonald, He was preceded in death by his brother Norman. Visitation was held on Tuesday from 3-8pm. A Feneral Service was held April 15. Wednesday, 11am at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. South Lyon. Memorial Contributions may be career took him to many places in the Eastern US and to Italy. He was an active member of the Highland United Melhodist Church. The love he gave his family and friends will always be remembered and cherisbed. He is survived by his sons. John E. (Debbe) Lloyd of Aberdeen, WA, James H. (Mary) Lloyd of Lloyd of Deriver, CD: six grandchilden, one great-grandchild and his Memorial contributions may be made to the Barbara Ann Karmanos Leukemia Research, Online questbook: www.phillipstuneral.com

OBITUARY POLICY e-mail your obit to: HTWObitsChome townlife.com Or fax to: Attn: Obits c'o Jennifer Musztuk Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer 586-828-7318

586-528-7318

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capital costs.
"That's why we had to go

to build it and operate it." Additional rev jected through use of the ments; health and wellness programs; theater produc tions; and use of the multipurpose activity rooms, among

recover costs in the area of

said Signature Park's recre-30-40 percent when including ation center was designed with more flexible space to trim cost and maximize revenue. "All of the financial projec

other things.

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with the millage," Landry said. "The .5 mill will generate 85 percent of the revenue needed 66,000-square-foot recreation center for things like basket-ball and volleyball tourna-

also be used for fairs and fes-**FIVE-YEAR PROJECTIONS**

tions use the indoor facility

for revenue, they don't even

consider the outdoor facility

aspect," Landry said noting

the potential to generate rev-

enue from the soccer, cricket

and football fields, which can

is concerned with is operat-In comparison with similar ing the park beyond its fifth facilities, such as Canton's year. The city estimates less Summit on the Park, Landry than \$13,000 in revenue ove

. What happens in year six. seven and eight?" she said. According to Landry, any attempt to estimate beyond five years is just throwing darts, and there is never a 100 percent guarantee.

"I think the city has been conservative in the economic estimates," he said, noting the five-year financial projec tions factor in the economy, estimating the city will recove 132 percent of its costs in operating year one, down to 101 percent in operating year

five "These numbers aren't crashing and burning, they are leveling out. "All you can do is try to design the most creative, cost-

SOURCE: The City of Novi

effective design." STAFFING ASSUMPTIONS The proposed plans for Signature Park include the addition of one full-time employee, assuming the facil-ity will share current staff

from the parks and recreation department. rec staff, it will only be the result of one thing," Landry said. "That it's being used more and will be generating more revenue.



A busy classroom inside the Novi Northville Montessori Center.

MONTESSORI

tional center brings a sense of

familiarity. "I want parents to be comfortable, trust, love and receive a good Montessori

nilosophies of Dr. Maria Montessori, educator and
psychologist. It is built on the
child's need for freedom with, in limits. The classroom environment is prepared in such a way that the child moves naturally through a progression of materials that satisfy his or her emotional, physical,

To foster the Montessori education, classes are divided not by age, but rather by skill level. The diverse center is comprised of about 100 kids, with 17 children in each session.
The nongraded students,

ranging from 2 1/2-6, walk freely through their rooms, choosing whether to work on on an extensive geography map project or have a snack break. Self-directed, sensory development and learning is

promoted.
"It's the whole child, not

just reading and writing," Rao said. "The main thing is you have to respect the children." AN EDUCATOR'S

BACKGROUND When Rao's now adult chil-

dren were young, she enrolled them in a Montessori Center. Rao said she liked it so much she took the training, heginning a career as a Montessori "My soul is in this school,"

Rao said.
The center is fully licensed by the State of Michigan and American Montessori Society and Michigan Montessori Society certified. The center operates by the motto, "It's not what we say, it's what we do."

In Rao's building, children are reading, speaking French, computing math problems -including addition, subtrac-Peace education and conflict esolution is also stressed in

Rao also teaches her chil-"They're not afraid of learn

Rao said she looks forward to many more years with the community.

Let's Dance!

online at hometownlife.com

Dear Savvy Senior,

Spurred on by the television pro gram "Dancing with the Stars," my husband and I are looking for some different resources that teach dance ing. What can you tell us?

Dear Recently It's amazing how "Dancing with the Stars' has lit a fire under the feet of millions of Americans - which is a good thing. Dancing is a great workout for your body and brain, no to mention a whole lot of fun. Here's what you should know and some resources to help you get started.

Whether your groove is ballroom square, swing, line, tap, clogging, jazz or even belly, dancing is a great

adult can burn about 150 calories dancing. And people who dance are more likely to stick with it than they are other types of exercises

LOT'S OF OPTIONS

ectivity for helping older adults get

and stay in shape. There's even chair dancing for seniors with physical limitations. On average, a 150-pound LEARN TO DANCE

HEALTHY RESULTS Like other moderate, low-impact activities, such as brisk walking,

cycling or aerobics, dancing can help increase stamina and flexibil-ity, improve balance and strengthen muscles. It can also belo ward off illnesses like diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, osteoporos and depression, but that's not all. Research shows that social dancing can also boost brain power, sharpen memory skills and even reduce the risks of developing dementia. The mental benefits are attained because dancers must learn and remember

To find dance classes near you call your local dance studios, dance clubs, health clubs, universities or community recreation centers. Some YMCAs, senior centers, churches, or synagogues may offer group dance classes too. You can also search online at sites like www.accessdance. com, which offers a network of dance studios, instructors, camps and coaches nationwide that are ready to

If you don't have any luck finding a dance studio or teacher in your area, lessons are also available on the Internet enabling you to learn in the comfort of your own home. Here are some good

sites to try:
• Learntodance.com: Offers free video dance lessons, which teach visitors to ballroom dance, fox trot, salsa, and more.

· Dancety.com: Teaches ballroom dance, waltz, fox trot, and East Coast swing via a series of text-heavy pages

The site also sells a tutorial video and music CD for \$30. online lessons - some are free and others cost a few dollars - in the

waltz, salsa, ballroom and other

· YouTube.com: This site's massive video library includes free instruc-tional clips in classical and contemporary dance moves. Just type in the kind of dance you're interested in learning in the search space at the top of the page, for a variety of

emonstrative options.
You also can learn to dance with the help of dance videos or DVDs (many options exist) that you can rent from your local library or video store, or purchase at www.collagevideo.

Savvy Tips: Another dancing/exercise option is Dance Dance

Revolution (www.ddrgame.com), a fun, interactive variety of video games that comes with a square. plastic dance pad that you place in ront on your television. Players are challenged to match their dance steps with the flashing arrows on the screen while keeping up with the beat of the music. Some games require a gaming console like a Wii, Xbox or

Playstation to operate them, while

others can be plugged right into the Or, if you like to travel, dancing vacation cruises can be a fun option too – see www.letsdancevacations. com. And as always, if you have a chronic health condition, he sure you consult with your doctor before you

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Your Invitation to

steps and sequences, utilizing think-

Brighton

LORD of LIFE LUTHERAN

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HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

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27d & 44 his Saturdays at 08:15 c.m.
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Runary care wellible 6 1000 a.m.
R. John Haris, Pastor

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NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 56730 Grand River Rev. Gerry Hunter Worship 10:30 a.m. 248-437-6212

NEW HOPE - A Unitarian

Universalist Congregation day Celebration of Life Service 18:30 a.n Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister Website: http://www.newhopeuu.c

Northville

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN xperience Lite Each Week y Worship - 9:00 em & 10:15 a

www.ncelife.org 41355 Six Mile Road

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

WARD EVANGELICAL
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Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Reverend George Chamley, Pas Parish Office: 347-7778 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Nov., MI 483 Weekend Hours Salwrdoy: 5 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Span Sendey: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:15 Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor Rov. Honry Sands. Associate Past Parish Office: 349-8847 • www.holyfamilyntori

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL Sundays 7:45 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Nursery 10 n.m. Rev. Dr. Ray Babin, Interim Rec OAK POINTE CHURCH

Saturdey Worship 5:15 pm., Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.n Cesual, contemporary service Phone (248) 912-0043

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN Worship 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church

The Church of Christ 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Praise and Worshi hesday Midweek Ministries 7 sday Midweek Ministrie: Rob Callicott, Pastor

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 10774 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) & SOUTH LYON

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Worship 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
of the walk wow besouthered THE PERSON NAMED IN

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN at Liberty St. Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-2289

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Senny Lee at 586-977-7651 or e-mail:

Westland

sslee@dnps.com

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Dan Flynn, Minister 734-426-4006 • www.livingwaten

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON 60820 Maijorio Ann St., South Lyon 48178 Phone: 248-437-2983 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.n vening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evoning 7:00 pu pnip Pastor, Reb Freshour / Assoc. Pastor, Randy Wea

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY

900 Pontisc Trail (Across from Envir's Orcia Saturday Service 5 p.m. Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Castemporary Worship - Relevant temporary Worship - new Bible Based Messages

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640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760 ship: 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a

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Sunday Christian Education 9:00 a.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Christian Education a
Family Nite 7:00 p.m.

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 10 a.m. Sunday Celebration c Trail and 9 Mile reviews

Office 248-485-4400

CROSSPOINT

COMMUNITY CHURCH

education," Rao said, "We try our best to make this a true Montessori school." Montessori is based on the

intellectual and social needs. "We give children a lot of freedom, Rao said. "And we respect each child."

tion and four-digit division. the center's curriculum.

dren to think, analyze and learn to be self-corrective. ing, not afraid of school," she

"We are grateful to the community to entrust us with their children," she said, "And we are grateful to all staff and all parents who have supported us.

Novite or Novian: Harwell goes to bat for fitness

Never at a loss for words, Ernie Harwell doesn't know what to all himself as a Novi resident. "I'm a Novite or Novian, Or

maybe Novissimo " Harwell said. "I talked to the Chamber of Commerce and they don't know what to call us. Novinskis?" At age 91, the voice of the

Detroit Tigers' has become a spokesperson for healthy living As baseball season gets under way, Harwell is working with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to promote walking as an easy path to fitness.

Harwell, who called Detroit Michigan and Trumbull" 1960-2002, remains active in retire-

15-minute routine of stretching, lunges and deep squats. Then, he works out in the gym at his retirement home in Novi

"I think the only day I missed they were fixing something in the gym and it was closed," Harwell said during a recent interview at Harwell also walks,

"All you need is a pair of shoes You can do it anywhere," he said, recalling the days he and former Tigers manager Sparky Anderson would walk in cities across the country as they loured with the great American

"We would walk in the hote! parking lots, around and around and around for 30 minutes," he said. "We tried to walk downtown in places like New York but everyone recognized Sparky and

The Truth About Long Term Care & How You Pay For It

According to AARP, 60% of persons over 65 will require some form of long term care. Most prefer

o have in-home care rather than a nursing home. Without proper planning the cost of care could

carn how to avoid the 5 most costly mistakes in planning for long term care and how to

paximize resources to assure the quality of life and care for you and your loved ones. Government

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

This Money Smart event is spansared by

Seating is limited.

For more information and reservations contact Cinda Everhart at 248-685-8743

Michael Hickox, J.D. and the Huron Valley Center for Estate, Elder Law & Special Needs Planning

Novi Public Library

Commerce Library

Commerce Library

benefit programs will also be discussed such as: Medicare, Medicaid and Veteran's benefits.

leave few alternatives to nursing home placement.

Monday, April 20, 2009

Thursday, April 23, 2009

He jamps rope 300 times a day, needed autographs. That would

celebrity, loved by generations of metro Detroiters who associate his voice with the sounds of sum

Blue Shield of Michigan headquarters in Detroit. And he remains involved with

On April 29, Harwell will greet

During the Tigers home opener April 10, Harwell hosted his annual breakfast at the Detroit Athletic Club to raise money for which began as an effort to save

Tiger Stadium. Harwell also took the field at Comerica Park to lead a tribute to former Tigers third baseman George Kell, who died last

Opening day remains a big

2:00 - 4:00

6:30 - 8:30



Ernie Harwell, longtime voice of Tigers baseball, is now an advocate for healthy living. At 91, he walks to stay fit.

"It's always a great occasion, always has been in Detroit," said rwell, likening it to three holi-

"It's like Easter because a lot

of people come just once a year like church. It's like Fourth of July because you have all the fireworks and excitement. And it's like Christmas because you open your new present. Fans see what

a deficiency of nearly \$330

As a result of the financial

outlook, Dion said he asked Novi High School administra

players they're going to get in their package for the year, and of course everyone starts equal."

So, how does Harwell think the Hope springs eternal," he said.

BUDGET

stated in a letter sent home to parents that the economy is affecting the school district.

In a preliminary budget resentation by Gail Credit business and operations, the projection showed a continincrease in per pupil state aid

and significant increases in tors to look at a six-period day. This would be a change expenses.

Based on the last two years' from the 4x4 block the school enrollment, and a projected enrollment decrease next year, currently operates on and a Dion projects Novi Schools posed 4x4 alternating block will see a decline of about 240 students and the state projects

ing educational program. I pledge to you to continue that million to the State Aid School through these difficult times

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's



Life is complicated. We all have questions. At Ward Church, we won't ignore the issues of our day.

Have

Join us for a teaching series addressing hot topics in and out of the church as we explore God's response when we say, "I have a friend who..."

4|19 ... Worries about the economy

4|25 ... Thinks all religions are the same

5|3 ...Struggles with homosexuality

5/10 ... Feels overwhelmed with stress

517 ...Thinks Christians are judgmental

You are welcome here. This series is the perfect chance to visit for the first time or check us out again. Childcare is provided. We'll see you soon!



Guernsey helps food pantries

Dairy hosting tour April 25

Come see how Michigan made products are produced for yourself from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 25 when Guernsey Farms Dairy will open its doors to the public for a tour of its dairy products production

The tour is free, and guests are asked to bring a non-perish-able food item or make a mon-etary donation to the Novi Food Pantries,

"We are very excited to be able to help the Novi Food Pantries this year," said Guernsey's Rita Rice. "The need is great and we are happy to help. Guernsey Farms Dairy will deliver all the food donated after the tour and we will also match any monetary donations made to the Novi Food Pantries."

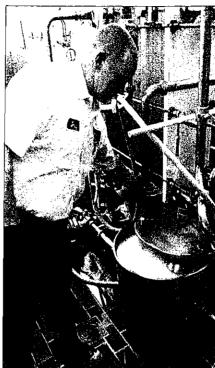
Bring the whole family for a

tour of the 28,000 square foot milk, ice cream and other dairy products production facility. Each month 1.2 million po of milk (140,000 gallons) and 10,000 gallons of ice cream are

"We often hear from our customers that they had no idea that we actually produce our milk and make our ice cream right here in Northville, Guernsey's Karen Kinville. "For 69 years we have been proud to be a Michigan company producting Michigan made products."

This family friendly event will feature free samples of all ucts, from rich strawberry milk, creamy chip dip to an flavors. There will be music. entertainment, prizes and muc founder John McGuire (who cently celebrated his 100th shake hands and greet guests. just as he has for the last 69,

Guernsey Farms Dairy has been a family owned and oper-ated business, by the McGuire family, since 1940. Guernsey



Greg McGuire checks the status of some 2 percent milk that Guernsey Farm



Maria Lindo, along with sons Paul, 12, right, David, 14, and her nephew Billy Peralta, 9, far left, enjoy some Guernsey Farms Dairy ice cream at the Novi

Farms Dairy offers a premiun line of dairy products and often named as one of the metro

For directions or more information, please call Guernsey at (248) 349-1466 or visit the Web

CLASS NOTES

Oakland Schools Summer Programs

Are you looking for exciting, nnovative, relevant, affordable learning opportunities for your children this summer? Oakland Schools Career Focused Education is offering 72 sses throughout the summer to students in grades 4-12 who are interested in exploring their interests in various career fields such as biotechnology, landscape design, employability skills, Microsoft Office, construction, basic home repair, welding, cosmetology, culinary arts, GIS, robotics, vehicle design, engi-neering, health and medical, emergency response training, auto body repair, auto technol ogy, personal watercraft mainte nance, digital animation, visual resentations and Web design. Academic classes will also be offered for Algebra, English,

A complete list of courses and registration information is available on the Oakland Schools

Focused Education (CFE) Summer Course Catalog" under Today @ Oakland Schools. Classes range in cost from \$25 to \$565 and are held in the four Dakland Schools Technical Campuses (Clarkston, Pontiac,

Royal Oak and Wixom), Class through the end of July on a first come, first served basis. The registration deadline is June 18, 2009. For program questions contact Paula Todd, Oakland Schools, Career Focused Education at (248) 209-2194 or

Paula:Todd@oakland.k12.mi.us

NHS Community Forum A community forum is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, April 20 inside the Instructional Technology Center, 25345 Taft Road, behind the Educational Services Building, to provide information and gather input on the Six-Period-Day Schedule and to answer questions regarding the proposed schedule. All stakeholders, including students, parents and staff are

NFF Green Gala

This year's Green Gala was a tremendous success, raising more than \$40,000 and hav ing the highest attendance to date, organizers said. In other news, sadly Gary Latham, Nov Educational Foundation vice chairman lost his battle with cancer on April 4. Latham was strumental in re-energizing the Foundation by bringing bright new ideas and moving the ization forward with his enthusiasm and endless energy.

Orchard Hills birthday

The Orchard Hills Elementary School community invites residents to celebrate the 50th from 1-4 p.m. Saturday, May 9. celebratory program in gymnasium and 3-4 p.m. Sock Hop and (248) 449-1400 or by e-mailing Becky Hurst at bhurst@novi

#050#050#060#060#060#002

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open House

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Waterford Bend Park - NW corner of 6 Mile and Northville Rd

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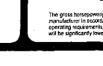


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Hot Jobs: Patient care technician at Novi's Providence Park Hospital

While she waits to get into nursing school, Marissa Worthington enrolled in trainng as a patient care technician to gain health care experience She took a 120-hour class to necome a patient care techni-cian at Oakland University's

School of Nursing, cospons by Warren-based St. John Health system. The training led to her getting hired in late March at St. John's Providence Park Hospital in Novi, where she cares mostly for cardiac patients in a specialty unit. Worthington said she con-

Homelown Weeklies | Thursday, April 16, 2009

her future.
"I'm getting lots of good experience," she said. Patient care technicians, and related careers as patient care associates and medical assistants, are jobs in top demand today as more health systems and programs look for ways to relieve sidered the \$1,500 cost of the erworked registered nurses

perform CPR; assist patients with bathing, dressing and feeding; take vital signs; help patients with range-of-motion exercises to build strength, and perform other routine housekeeping and patient care tasks, including emptying bedpans. "It's a front-line caregiving

job," said Mary Naber, senior

for "people who want to give the hands-on care, bathing, moving people about, making sure needs are met and supporting the nurse in the care of the patients." Naber said. Naber and Carmen Johnson, who teaches the OU course,

said that after a PCT gets hos-

as St. John does, that provide

accepted into OU's nursing program in January. Meantime, she has a paying job



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Meet Kensington's newest babies

nically they're half-siblings.

Fink explained that 2-year

some time at a breeder about

After Carmel the goat gave birth to triplets April 7 at the Kensington Metropark farm center, twin sister Jorja comed her own set of twins, a male and female, on April 8. "Now we have five new cousins - and are they ever cute," said Carol Fink, farm

"They honey mooned for a interpreter.
In fact, the babies are more couple weeks," she laughed, the new goats — as well as the rest of the animals at the farm center, including Lawrence

the calf, born two weeks ago "Mothers and babies are doing great," Fink said. "Come out and see them - they're

Saturday, April 25 – 6:30 PM,

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church hosts a seminar:

THE HOLY BIBLE

Why are these books the word of God?

We will explore and answer questions about the Old and New Testaments such as:

- ➤ How do we know that we have the right books?
- ➤ What about other books? Why don't they make the cut?
- ➤ What about the Apocryphal books? Should they be in the Bible or not?
- ➤ Were the books copied accurately?
- ➤ How do we know that our translation of the Bible is not based on a lot of guess work?
- ➤ What secrets do the Dead Sea Scrolls reveal?

Join us to learn more about the Bible, its faithfulness, and its reliability. There is no cost. Light refreshments will be available.



Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church 41415 W. Nine Mile Road (Corner of Meadowbrook Rd.)

Novi, Michigan 48375 · (248) 349-0565

Second annual Live Like Andi Run, Walk and Fun Run

Olympic athlete Sheila Taormina will participate in the second annual Live Like Andi Run Walk and Fru Catholic Central High School 27225 Wixom Road, just outh of Grand River Avenue

online at hometownlife.com

in Novì. The gold medal Olympic athlete became the first woman to ever qualify and ompete in three different sports in three Olympic Games. Taormina will give a pep talk at the beginning of the event, which includes a Fashion Walk; Heroes' 10 mile; 5K run; 5K walk; 10K run; and 1 mile Fun Run for kids. She will also provide words of encouragement throughout the day.

The event is in honor of Andrea (Andi) O'Connell, who died in July 2007 at the age of 40, ending a 21-year battle with Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma (ACC), a rare can cer typically originating in the salivary glands and ofter spreading to the brain and

for the Fashion Walk and Fu Run, to \$30 for the 5K and

During the event Andi's husband Mike, and their three children, Tyler, 15, Gabrielle 12 and Olivia, 9, will walk and run and help sell chee-tah color wristbands that say "Live Like Andi" to be worn with the same pride and courageous spirit that thousands vear Lance Armstrong wrist-

cial addition to the event as a memorial honoring Andi's love of style and high fashion Ladies are encouraged to not only don their jazzed up running shoes and boas but to dress their best including cheetah print clothes and hair adorned by pink bows for the .5K Fashion Walk.

Registration for the 10 mile Heroes Run begins at 7 a.m., with the event at 8 a.m. Registration for the other ning at 9 a.m. The 10 mile oes Run gives participants

encouraged to prepare a board used to set up scholarships in with their hero's picture and a Andrea's memory at Catholic short write up on why they are Central Novi, South Lyon their hero.

In support of her friend, Andi's college roommate, Lt. Col. Wendy Mabry, Smith's husband Col. Phillip Smith Baghdad, Iraq on the day of the Live Like Andi event. The run in Iraq will start sim neously with the Heroes' Run in Novi at 8 a.m.

Andrea (Andi) O'Connell with her husband, Mike.

sponsored by the Live Like Andi Foundation, Inc., a notfor-profit 501(c)3 organization formed to raise money for research to discover a cure for ACC and to support families of individuals with ACC.

Last year, the event raised more than \$100,000 to aid in research and scholarships with 1,000 people participat-

High, Novi High School and for her alma mater. Richmon

About 600 new cases of

ACC occur in the United States each year. Because the cancer is rare, there is no funding for ACC research from the government, National Cancer Institute or American Cancer Society. All funding to the Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma Research vate donations such as those individuals who are support

ing the Live Like Andi even For more information abou the event, to download regis tion or to sign up to be a fund

Seminars focus on elder care

omotes financial literacy. So does the Federal Reserve So it was natural the two connected for Smart Money Week, a series of free classe and activities designed to help consumers better man ge their personal finances Hickox, owner of Huron

Valley Center for Estate. Elder Law & Special Needs Planning, said the week includes a variety of areas. ncluding financial planners, estate planning, medical and more. He plans a series of seminars next week focusing on elder care and its ramifications.

People need to learn what hey can experience in the family and the financial side on how to pay for it," he said.
According to the AARP, 60 percent of people older than the age of 65 will need some type of long-term care.

"Families don't understand the real dynamics of

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, April 18, Milford Library 2 to 4 p.m. Monday, April 20, Novi Public Tuesday, April 21, Hartland Cromaine Library Village 2 to

Library 2 to 4 p.m. or 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday April 23 Commerce Library 2 to 4 p.m. or 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 24, Highland

Library 2 to 4 p.m.

Wednesday, April 22, Brighton

Participants in the semi nar will learn more about programs available for families through Medicare, Medicaid and Veterans Affairs. Most people want t provide in-home care for the elderly, which adds another

"People don't understand what kind of disruptions it makes in the family environburden is," said Hickox.

He plans to bring several other experts to the sessions including a geriatric care manager and a care provid-er. Any of the presenters can talk in detail about options for in-home care and what is available. Hickox added that care can be as simple as a weekly visit to play cards or as involved as 24-hour

skilled nursing.
The seminars will be more of a conversation than a presentation, he said, with plenty of opportunities for people to ask questions. Space is limited, so registration for the seminars can be made by calling (248) 685-8743.

Money Smart Week is a Federal Reserve program, and 5/3 Bank Eastern Michigan is partnering in the program. For more information, visit www. igan or call (877) 669-7678

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EDUCATION

Fun ways to introduce math to your children

Is this a familiar scene? You are sitting at the kitchen table, belping your child with homework, and struggling to help him memorize math facts and formulas. Learning feels like a chore instead of a joy.
While 80 percent of tradi-

tional mathematics teaching relies on drilling and memo-rization, it can also be boring, frustrating and discouraging for many children. Parents help to make math fun and approachable by linking it to real-world examples. Memorization of math facts

and formulas is an important part of math instruction. In order for children to really understand and apply even basic math facts, they must also discover them in the world around them.

Inspire a joy of learning math with your child by using fun games and activities to help them apply what they've learned. The following are some examples recommende y Sylvan Learning Center, the ding provider of supplemen tal education to students of all

ages and skill levels:

Play popular board games that require basic math skills. tes and Ladders® and RackO® develop number sense. "24" and Yahtzee® help computation speed and accuracy. Problem solving skills are developed through games like TriOminos® and Connect

a valuable math tool. Card games begin to teach the les-sons of probability. Using a deck of cards is also a great way to reinforce addition and subtraction memorization for children learning basic math facts. n Relate math to your child's favorite sport. Ask her to calculate the number of points needed for her favorite team to win. Encourage her to create

multiple point combinations to reach that score.

Use driving time as math game time. Invite children to figure out how long it will take to get to your destination or estimate how much it will cost o fill up the gas tank.

■ Dominoes are a great game for children of all ages. Smaller children can use them to orga-nize similar quantities, while older children can explore the concepts of probability.

Sylvan Learning Center ublishes a "Seven Days of Activities for Family Learning Fun," which provides other suggestions for enjoyable educa-tional programs and activities for parents and children. For more information visit http:// tutoring.sylvanlearning.com/ learning-activities/brochure. cfm or call (800) 31-SUCCESS

This article was provided by Kathy B.

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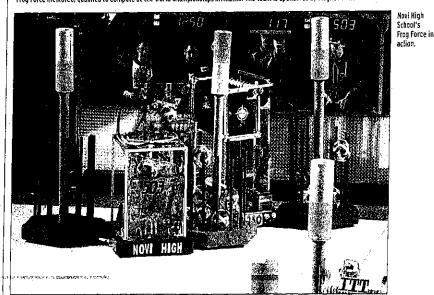
Expo sponsored by: EverClean Restoration, Lotus Bank, I Mercantile Bank, Northwood University, SERVPRO of Novi, The Old Maid Cleaning Services, Twelve Oaks Mall

Expo brought to you by: The Novi Chamber of Commerce and The City of Novi



Success!

The Novi High School Frog Force Robotics team competed in the FIRST Michigan State Championship, making it to the semi finals. The team also received the Xerox Creativity award and the Johnson and Johnson Gracious Professionalism award. Both the Frog Force team and team 3115, the team Frog Force mentored, qualified to compete at the World Championships in Atlanta. The team is sponsored by Magna Intier.



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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18.235

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AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 11, 08-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 1101 AND SECTION 1102, ARTICLE 12, OSC OFFICE SERVICE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 1201 AND SECTION 1202, ARTICLE 15, B-3, GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 1601 AND SECTION 1902 AND ARTICLE 23, OS-2, PLANNED OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 1902 AND ARTICLE 23, OS-2, PLANNED OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 2001 AND SECTION 2002; IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR HEALTH AND FITNESS PACILITIES AS PRINCIPAL PERMITTED USES.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Menday, April 6, 2009 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days, after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Tan Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk Publish: April 16, 2009

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 09-138,02

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 99-188.02 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 34, UTILITIES, ARTICLE II, "Water Supply System," DIVISION 1, IN ORDER TO AMEND THE ALTERNATE DAY LAWN WATERING SECTION TO INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT TO OPERATE UNDERGROUND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS DURING NON-PEAK HOURS OF 11:00 PM AND 5:00 AM AND TO AMEND AMOUNT OF FINES FOR VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (#).

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, April 6, 2009 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175.W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

Publish: April 16, 2009

NEIGHBORS



Speed racers!

Cub Scoul Pack 375, sponsored by Providence Park Hospital, hosted its annual Pinewood Derby race on Saturday, March 28. Our state-of-the-art race track and enthusiastic 6- to 12-year-old scouts made for a fun and adventurous event. Scouts were required to take a mock written driver's exam and eye test prior to racing their derby cars. They then received their driver's license before they raced in their first heat. Real-life race-car sound effects from the computerized race track added to the excitement of the day. Photographed are front row, Tiger Cubs; second row, Wolf Cubs; and third row, Bear Cubs and Webelos

Dan Baker: Lions' mascot kept up a family tradition

BY JOE ROSSITER FREEPRESS STAFF WRITER

prints, Dan Baker helped continue William Baker's role as the Detroit died in 1960.

The elder Baker had been the Detroit from Portsmouth, Ohio After their father's death Dan Baker and his brother, William, alternated the role

of the mascot at all home games, which were then played at Tiger Stadium.
Dan assumed full-time duty when the team moved to the Pontiac Silverdome for the 1975 season, and

his three young sons alternated ving him on the sideline Mr. Baker died last Friday at the Manor of Novi after an extended

Novi resident was 69.

"He was the perfect guy for the job because he was fun-loving, upbeat and enjoyed people, said Anita

fans in the seats, talking to the kids and posing for pictures with them." Born in Detroit, Mr. Baker gradu ated from Dearborn High School in 1957 and worked as an accounmanager with Alliance Shippers Inc. alocal trucking firm. Dan Baker retired from the mascot job in 1995. Survivors include sons Daniel,

Brian and Kenneth. No services were held. His body was cremated. to the Alzheimer's Association, 20300 Civic Center Drive, Suite 100

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OUR VIEWS

Get connected at your library

Libraries of all kinds continue to be engines of learning, literacy and economic development in communities nationwide. According to the 2008 State of America's Libraries report, released by the American Library Association, Americans check out more than two billion items each year from their public libraries. The average user takes out more than seven books a year. but patrons also go to their libraries to borrov DVDs, learn new computer skills, conduct job scarches and

participate in

the activities of

nity organiza-

The average

bill to the tax

payer for this

We want you to know these things because this week is National Library Week, a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support.

remarkable range of public services: \$31 a year, about the cost of one hardcover book. Studies provide solid evidence that the nation's public libraries are engines of economic growth, contributing to local development

through programming in early literacy, employment services and small-business development They show that libraries provide an excellent return on investment, have a measurable positive impact on the local economy and contribute to the stability, safety and quality of life of their We want you to know these things because

this week is National Library Week, a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries and librarians and to promote library use and sup-port. With a theme "Worlds connect @ your library," this week is a perfect time to stop in at the Novi Public Library and see what's going on. If you haven't been in awhile, you'll be sur The library is more than a depository for

books, DVDs and CDs. It has become a community gathering place, offering people, young and old alike, the opportunity to learn, be enter-tained and to try new things. You can learn how to use a computer and surf the Web. You can spend a quiet evening knitting or crocheting, hear music or watch movies.

And access to the library is no longer go erned by the hours on a clock. Thanks to the Internet, the library is available 24 hours a day seven days a week. With the click of a mouse any book from any library in the country can be sent to you in a matter of days: It's all part of the inter-library loan.

We encourage residents to stop by the library and see what's there. If you don't have a library

Join the discussion



Is it fair for the state of Michigan to grant tax rebates for the motion picture industry?

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

We're looking for you! The Novi News is currentlooking to interview local residents regarding the wing topics: ■ Are you a resident who recently returned to

work or lost your job? ■ Are you a Novi resident interested in sharing a

story about how your religious faith has carried you through tough times? ■ Do you spend more than \$200 a week on gro-

■ Do you have an interesting hobby?

■ Do you have an interesting noboy:
■ Do you have an unusual pet?
■ Are you addicted to social networking sites like ce. Facebook and Twitter?

Are you a family that has pulled together dur-

g anneuit uides? E-mail Novi News editor Victoria Mitcheil at vemitchell@gannett.com



Victoria Mitchell | Grace Perry Community Editor | Director of Advertising

Susan Rosiel

utdoors and nurture the love of the fields and flowers and rivers and lakes and all the when a many sers and all the activities that can (encompass) those areas. We'll go fishing out in Brighton's Bishop Lake for the lowly but delectable bluegill and up north on the Au Sable's North

Branch for the beautiful brook trout. We'll kayak down northwestern Michigan's Platte River and talk about that area's amazing Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and we'll also find fun things to do right here in southeast-ern Michigan like exploring Northville's

some of its clusive and large hold-over brown trout that get to be well over fourteen inches in length.

This won't just be a "how to" outdoors section, sure you'll learn some of the tech-

Johnson Drain and seeing if we can find

ous natural resources.

So join us. You can access the site by clicking on the SPORTS section at hometownlife.com and then going to its YOUR WILD MICHIGAN section or simply by going here: http://www.hometownlife.com/

Help the cause

Last week. I wrote a long letter about the

invasive plant, garlic mustard. As I said then, pull out your calendars and on April

26 write down - Garlic Mustard Pull, noor

to 3 p.m.- Lakeshore Park. Please take 13 minutes of your time to watch this video

- http://www.in-sitevideo.com/wff/gar-licmustard.html. It explains the terrible damage that can be done by garlic mus-

tard especially in our woodlands and it

to: Ipm.msu.edu/garlicmustard.html.

scribes a "pull." For more information, go

Stewardshipnetwork.org has challenged

the State of Michigan to pull 200,000 pounds of garlic mustard this spring. April

need you. Wear old shoes, long pants, long-

sleeved shirts, gloves and bring a few plas-tic garbage bags. We'll do this rain or shine

Pulling garlic mustard can be fun and, of

to 3 p.m., Lakeshore Park - see you there.

Support Signature Park

generations to come.

On Tuesday May 5, we will have an

opportunity to make a decision on an investment that will serve Novi for many

show parks help attract both businesses

and residents to new communities. This

Signature Park will assist Novi in its con-

tinued effort to diversify the tax base, cre-

ate economic development and improve the quality of life of its residents.

I respect everyone's opinion, but I would

It's no secret that recent national studies

ourse, an action that must be taken to pro-

lect our woodlands. So. ... April 26th, noon

26 will be the first officially designated day in Novi for pulling this plant. Groups families, individuals – young and old – we WHAT DO YOU THINK? We welcome your Letter to the Editor, Please nclude your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space Submit via Web: www.hometownlife.com

LETTERS

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Novi News, 101 N afayette St., Soulh Lyon, MI 48178. Fax: (248) 437-3386.

E-mail: vemitchell@gannett.com. a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard

ask this proposal be judged on its merits not on labels attached to it. If you are opposed to Signature Park merely because it can be labeled a "tax increase," and those are unpopular now, I think that would be a mistake. It is either good for Novi - or it is not. If it is good for Novi in the long run the fact that it, technically, raises taxes does not magically transform it into something that is had for Novi Remember we're talka home valued at \$300,000. Let's put that into perspective. It's less than \$1.50 per week. Surely \$75 a year means somethin different to everyone. I get that. I have five kids, three in college, an aging parent and a mortgage on a house that has lost value just like yours. Not to mention a business that is trying to sustain itself during these trying times. But it's the features and benefits of what \$1.44 per week investment will return n the future that makes this almost a no-

There is one other very important aspec to the Signature Park; the preservation of 60 acres of open green space. If we are truly stewards of the future of our environment this is an opportunity, in all likeli-hood the last opportunity, to preserve 60 contiguous acres of green space in Novi. Surely the preservation of this much open green space for future generations is wort \$1.44 a week. It's worth it to me, regardless of what label is slapped on it: Republican, Democrat, Conservative, Liberal, environmentalist or tax raiser. This is good for Novi, that's all I am concerned about Please take the time to understand what this asset will bring to the community and visit www.novisignaturepark.com.

There's something for everyone in this park

Brian Burke

The City Council has picked the absolute worse timing to ask the residents for a millage increase. With so many people out of work and so many homes in foreclosure,

With so many private venues available in we can do without for a while. Please put

GUEST COLUMN

ahead recognizes that the entire road forward. The budget is balanced and proof an adopted, sound target. The City's percent, which has been anticipated. That decrease is not what we have experienced in our rapid-growth recent history, but it has been anticipated and has been accomnodated. Over the last year, as we have managed operations and looked ahead, the City has had to reduce its full-time staffing level because of the decline in new construction in the department directly refilled three other full-time positions that



diversified to become 38 percent non-residential.
New construction in 2008

The other major revenue source (\$3.62 resource has been steadily cut by the State government as they attempt to realign their

our means.
The City of Novi has received a bond

Council and School Board's agreement is the kind of public partnership that is often talked about in other places, but not always delivered. We are prepared to out to meet the needs of our community. on time and in budget, results from our National Citizen Survey show that resi-

Road improvements are always on the at the front of the line for Federal stimulus

on cityofnovi.org as is information about the Signature Park. Our stuff and the City Council are open to your thoughts and comments on your City budget and opera-

Manager Clay J. Pearson. He can be reached at (248) 347-0420 or via e-mail at opearson@cityoInovi.org.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10

with your own blog at hometownlife.com, and I hope you'll join me and vote "yes" on

Poor timing for millage increase

now is not the time to ask for a property tax increase that will last 25 years. Besides, we just approved a library millage last year. It should also be noted that this facility will have a large operating cost that has to come out of our city's annual budget (our tax money again).

it on the back burner just ahead of the golf course and the swimming pool projects.

Novi city manager delivers recommended budget

"When driving at night, you can only see as far as your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way."

he recommended City of Novi budget was released this week, building upon the plans and expectations of our elected mayor and city council and hun-dreds of citizens who volunteer their time on a board or commission. Those plans are supported by a first-rate staff at the City of Novi who are dedicated to provid-ing essential services of police and fire, nd recreation, water and sewer, forestry,

roads maintenance and construction, parks library, development services, and much more of the support that Novi residents and isinesses rely upon every day. The recommended budget for the year altead may not be crystal clear, but that we do have illumination enough to safely move

vides 'rainy day reserves' within the range general fund budget's largest single revenue source is local property tax. That property tax revenue is declining overall by 1,24 onsible for overseeing development, but that is a function of aligning resources with workload. Being prudent, we have also not became open during the year. We are cor stantly looking to move resources to meet

The overall tax base in the City of Novi,

because of our location, great schools, city services, etc., remains solid. We have a tax base of \$3.55 billion, of which we have

Clay Pearson moderated the decline in tax base, our estimates for 2010 have been made and will be carefully reviewed as we move forward; but another decline has been put into our assumptions and can be accommodated with continuing the sound practices that have served us well

million) is State Shared Revenue. That fiscal order. The majority (88 percent) of State Shared revenue is protected by the State Constitution. We have reduced the State's revenue estimates in our budget to be conservative and provide a hedge for decreased sales taxes to the State. All of this is designed to continue living within

rating upgrade from the national agency last year. Improvements to the Power Park ballfields, a new Novi Public Library, and a new Fuerst Park on the Civic Center campus in the community's core are the visible signs of public responsibility to take care of public properties and make the investments to attract residents and businesses. Our economic development efforts have been and will be amplified to share the positive

Novi story. Novi voters will have an opportunity to decide on May 5 whether they elect to approve a dedicated Parks and Recreation .5 millage (sunset to 25 years) to provide a set of Signature Park improvements.

sible only because of a cooperative agree-ment between the City and the Novi Community School District. The City deliver a Signature Park that can be built-If approved, the total City millage for next year will go up by 0.32, not the entire amount, as we make adjustments in other millages to reprioritize. Our City track record of results is to deliver improvements dents appreciate and recognize that track

top of our priorities, neighborhood roadways and the major roads that move Novi residents, visitors, commuters and custom ers to and from their homes. The scale of roadwork in 2009-10 will be enic. There is over \$74 million worth of road work we will have to digest and work through, recognizing that those construction crews are working in our community and earning fair wages for them and their families. We have been strategic in Novi about position ing ourselves to leverage road dollars. Of that \$74 million, 92 percent of it comes from State and Federal resources. We are and other projects because of planning and

preparation.

The recommended budget is available

This guest column was provided by City of Novi

DanceSport

ONLINE VIEWS & VOICES

Explore Your Wild Michigan Posted 4/1/2009 10:09 AM EDT on hometown/ife.com

Photoguy 24 wrote:
Wow. Warmer weather at last. It's going to be above 50 today, and I think I can finally ditch the thermal underwear that I've been wearing every day for the last five

What I'm looking forward to is getting back outside and enjoying the woods, water and creatures that inhabit both those

We've got a section online here at homecom called Your Wild Michigan that yours' truly is in charge of. In it we've got stories, videos and lots of photos of our adventures in Michigan's outdoor play-

ground.
In Your Wild Michigan we explore the

niques to fish and canoe and what the names of all the plants are in the woods, but also why we go outside into nature and what we gain from having access to these

Oh, and did I mention some of the urban foraging we're going to do? You'll never pass up a black raspberry bush or catnip plant growing alongside the road again. Free, good stuff for you and your

Hope to see you out in Michigan's great

Here are some tips for the older job seeker

re you convinced that you cannot find a new job because you are over age 50? While this is a common perception, there is a lot of evidence that the over 50 age worker has actually been very success ful in staying in or re-entering the work force since about 1995. In fact, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the federal agency which ollects, analyzes and publishes all kinds of data, projects that the number of workers between ages 65 and 75 will continue to grow by more than 80% through 2016 to a rate of 6.1 percent of the total labor force, up from only 3.6 percent of the labor force in

online at hometownlife.com

So it appears that older workers have been successful in joining the labor force, espe-cially over the last three years. But, conventional wisdom says that these older workers will be the hardest hit during a recession as employers will target them first when layoffs are needed. However, once again the data paints a different picture. As of February 2009, the current unemployment statistics for all workers over age 16 was 8.1 percent. When broken down by age, the group with the highest rate at 12.9 percent is workers aged 20 to 24, those aged 25-54 is at 7.2 percent but those aged 55 and older is at 5.6 percent.

The more important statistic in unemployment rates is education level.
Regardless of age, if you have a high school diploma or less, you are at a severe disadvantage. There are simply fewer jobs for people with less formal education. So, what can you do?

In Michigan, the No Worker Left Behind program may be a resource for you. You can find information about the program on this Web site http://www.michigan gov/nwlb and learn more by contacting Michigan Works! at www.michiganworks org or call (800) 285-WORKS (9675). If you qualify, funds are available to train you in high demand jobs, including some in green tigh demand jobs, including some in green technologies, which are projected to grow in demand. This program is working both with job seekers and with employers to match employers' needs with qualified workers.

If you are an older workers who already has an Associate's degree or higher, you may still decide that you need additional training to make yourself more competitive in the market. Michigan Works has some training available, and you may qualify for No Worker Left Behind if you've been laid off from your previous job. In addition, you may be able to find additional training through professional associations related to your career field, community colleges' Transition

Centers, and through community resources such as your public library.
If you are simply embarking on a job

search, you will have more confidence and make a great impression if you keep in mind some general tips:

1. Keep your mind and body healthy - cat good foods, exercise, get enough sleep and see your doctor if you have lingering dencession. Employers want to hire people who have high energy and positive attitudes. By taking care of yourself, you are also increasing the probability that employ crs will see those traits in you.

2. Evaluate your appearance – your bairstyle and wardrobe and make sure

that your clothing is neat, up to date and fits well. You want to make a terrific first impression when you walk in the door at a networking meeting or job interview. If you need some updated items, try thrift or consignment stores or shop sales. Take your shoes to a shoe repair shop to replace new heels and soles and hide scuff marks. 3. Smile and sit up straight - look interested and engaged, even on the phone or computer. Make sure your communications, whether in person or by telephone or e-mail, telegraph a positive outlook and confidence in yourself. If you don't believe

you can land a job, you will telegraph that titude in everything you do.

4. Make sure your resume is up to date and meets current standards. The Riley Guide, an online resource covering every conceivable aspect of job searching (http:// www.rileyguide.com/resprep.html) has a number of links to good sources for guid-ance and examples. Other good sources are available in your public library. Show your resume to a few colleagues to get their feed back and to help make sure you don't have

any hidden typos or other errors. 5. Use your network. Up to 80% of job openings are never advertised, so you won't find them in the newspaper, or on job posting sites like Monster, Careerbuilder or Michigan Talent Bank. Your network is the best source of information and leads as you try to determine which employers might be interested in your talents and strengths. As an older worker, you have a distinct advan tage over younger workers in having a large and diverse network. Don't assume that valuable contacts are only those whom you know through work, either. Your friends, family, neighbors, church, community and small business contacts may prove to be just as valuable. Use LinkedIn (http://ww linkedin.com/) as an online tool to build your professional network.

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6. Define specific job targets and be able to talk about them clearly with your contacts. If you do not want to change career fields, identify new employers or industries that hire people with your back-ground. If you are considering a change in career fields, learn everything you can about it so you can clearly describe how your experience and skills can be transferred into the new career. Then ask your contacts to

help you meet new people who can help you learn more or get your foot in the door with employers who can use your talents. 7. Stay active. While you are searching for a job, spend 20 to 40 hours a week on your job search. Get active in professional organizations related to your career interests and serve on a committee. Volunteer for an community or service organization where you can contribute your talents and make new friends and contacts.

8. Upgrade your computer skills if necessary. You need to be proficient in using Microsoft Office – Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook - in many business settings. Look for free or low cost training programs If you don't have this software on your com puter, you can purchase it using an educational discount if you enroll in a course at your local community college - even a non credit course.

9. Evaluate your attitude toward work ing for a younger person. Don't let your own prejudices prevent you from getting an offer. Even with the gains older workers have made in the workforce, chances are you will report to someone younger, even eone MUCH younger than you. Your job, in part, is to make your boss look good so accept that you may serve somewhat as a nentor to the person you report to.

10. Consider selling your talents as an

independent contractor or a consultant By virtue of your years of experience and contacts in your field, you may be able to create a market for your skills and knowl Martha D. Adamson is a consulting professional with a diverse background in Human Resource

Management and Career Development. She is a Certified Career Development Facilitator, a Certified Career & Job Search Coach, and a Certified of Job Search Navigator, a workbook-style guide to assessing yourself and managing your job search (www.jobsearchnavigator.com) which was first pub lished in 1999 by Prentice-Hall and revised and repub lished by Success Press in 2005. From 1993 to 1996 the Saratoga Springs, NY newspaper - The Saratogian

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provided, free child care. Tickets

\$5 at the door, CONTACT: For more

CONTACT: For more information

contact Ward Church (248) 374-

TIME/DATE: 5 p.m.- 6:30 p.m., May

LOCATION: Emmanuel Lutheran

DETAILS: Wear comfortable, non-

stick shoes. Minimal admission fee

CONTACT: For questions, contact

Monica at mgmc77@yahoo.com or

the Single Adult Ministries office at

Thursday evenings, May 7-August 6

DETAILS: For single guys and gals;

all skill levels welcome, \$30 due at

CONTACT: Sign up at Ward Church,

40000 Six Mile Road, Northville

Ballroom Dance Lessons.

(248) 374-5920.

9, May 23

(248) 374-5920.

(248) 374-5920.

East Pavilion

Memorial Day Picnics

TIME/DATE: 11 a.m., May 25

LOCATION: Hines Park Northville

LOCATION: Cass Benton Park off

Northville Road, between 6 and 7

DETAILS: Hot doos, hamburgers

and drinks provided. Cost, \$5 at

the picnic and your favorite dish to

share. Children and grandchildren

are welcomed. \$3 for ages 12 and

TIME/DATE: noon to 5 p.m., May 25

Softball League Sign-up.

TIME/DATE: 6:15-7:30 p.m.

Fuchre Game Night

9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength

10 a.m.: Body Recall

12:30 p.m.: Pirrochil

6-7 p.m.: Yoga

Noon: Lunch

1 p.m.: Bingo

6-7 p.m.: Pilates Mat Work

8:30 a.m.: Panera Bread

Wednesday 9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength

II a.m.: TOPS; Blood Pressure

1:30 p.m.; Humana Presentation

6-7 p.m.; Dancing with the Stars

A ARP Driver Safety Program

TIME/DATE: Noon Thursday, April 30

Licensed Assisted Living; Licensed

LOCATION: 27475 Huron Circle (adjac

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily

LOCATION; 41000 W. 13 Mile Road

DETAILS: More than 800 people live

at Fox Run in Novi. an Erickson full

service retirement community that

combines a vibrant maintenance-free

host of amenities, social activities and

for additional information on the com

munity's apartment homes. For gen

eral information, call (248) 668-8610

SCHOOL & GOVERNMENT

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. first and third

Monday of month

CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

wellness and medical centers.

DETAILS: Join us for tours and refresh

to Twelve Oaks Mail) CONTACT: (248) 735-1500 or e-mail wal-

Dementia Care

ments.

IO a.m.: Body Recall



Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, April 16, 2009

Northville Newcomers and Neighbors' members get together for a visit. From left: Claudia Snyder, Barb Dingwall, Kathy Lee, Carolyn Kugler, Sandy Salloum, and Paula Smith

Northville Newcomers & Neighbors set Spring Banquet

You don't have to be getting married to like weddings. Members of the Northville comers & Neighbors want all area romantics at heart to attend "Dine by Designs: The Wedding," the group's Annual Spring Banquet, slated for 6 p.m. May 13 at Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth Township The event will include a fashion show of the latest

guests listen to live music

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spring and bridal fashions, a buffet dinner and surprise dessert served on a variety of

and destinations. "For example, we will have a Valentine's wedding tabl with red-andwhite decorations," said Paula Smith, publicity chair.

"I'm doing a table with the theme 'Paris with a Kick," said Kathy Lee, event chair. Door prizes will also be awarded, including a trip to Chicago, pearls from the Orient, a gift certificate from

Orin Jewelers, gift certificates from Simply Wine and Wine The tablescapes will feature Our Doors Are Open To You

estes year child with a Monte-soni education that s a lifeture. Our carefulls, prepared environment ints, roddlers, and pre-primary strongle elementae weser your childs to question, learn, and gross

Litonia Compus Opening September 8, 2009 Arend our information sessions to learn more about our NTW composition Accepting — Registrations for our year-round infant and the group can contact Colleen

Parent Information Seasion Tuesday, April 28, 2009 5:00 p.m. -- 7:30 p.m. Informational tours every half hour

Registrations for our year-tround infant and holdler program Applications for the 2009–2010 residence year

0

BLOOMFIELD 3/4 bdrm, 3 bath, \$2,100

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Sync, Bonefish Grill restau-rant and more. Fashions will hail from Van

Dam's Boutique and David's "We're doing an entire bridal weekend, with fashions from the rehearsal dinner to the

wedding and the honeymoon, A cash bar will also be available.

WIN BRUNCH FOR TWO Cost is \$30 per person for members and \$32 each for nonmembers. Those who to Northville Newcomers & Neighbors or NNN post marked by April 25 will be entered into a drawing for a free brunch for two at Fox

RSVP to Pam Grigsby at pam.grigsby@yahoo.com or (248) 348-3944 or Helen Wotherspoon at hwotherspoon@comcast.net or (248) Please mail checks to Helen

Wotherspoon, 47706 Arbor Trail, Northville, MI, 48168. Reservations are requested by Those who would like to join

Nametz, membership chair, at (248) 596-1940 or mail a check made out to Northville Newcomers & Neighbors or NNN for \$12.50 per household for half-year dues Northville, MI, 48168.

www.northvillenewcomers.com

TIME: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:0 a.m. fraditional: 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Nursery and Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. Service Broadcast DETAILS: 11 a.m. every Sunday on

Single Point Ministries - 45 and TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. Sunday for fellow Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road, ship and Bible study.

Single Focus Ministries - 35-50 IME/DATE: 9:30 a.m. Sunday to deepen your personal relationship with

Single Purpose Connexions - 20-30 TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. Sunday in the

Chapel for singing, Bible study, and **DETAILS:** For single adults, Active ministry offering various Bible study classes, volleyball, bicycling group, tennis group, support groups, suppor group for widowed over age 50, fellow hip, friendships and more, Contact the

number below for more information. CONTACT: (248) 374-5920 Bible Studies and Prayer Nights Learner's Bible Study TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Mondays Room

Men's Bible Study TIME/DATE: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult Ministries office Single's Bible Study TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309 Relationship 101 Class TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., May 8, June 12

versations.

LOCATION: Knox Bail CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY **DETAILS:** Biblical guidelines on LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road building relationships along with CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit helylight refreshments and lively confamilynovi.org TIME/DAY: 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m., and contact the Single Adult Ministries 12:15 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday,

office at (248) 374-5920. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 7 p.m. Singles Book Club Discussion Tuesday: 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. TIME/DATE: 12:30 p.m., June 7 Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. **DETAILS**: Discussions from a Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. single adult. Christian perspec lays or by appointment tive. Currently reading "At Home In Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting Mitford" by Jan Karon. TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. last Wednesday

Lighthouse Café. of each month TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., May 22, June 26 DETAILS: Free, informational meet DETAILS: Also known as game night. This is a great way to end your work week. Guest musicians provide background music, snacks

Real Estate, Apartments, Merchandise, Auto, etc.

For even more classified ads, see our expanded Classified Section in today's paper!

DETROIT FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

information contact Ward Church CONTACT: (248) 348-7600 or visit dfc TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., May 9,

> Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service. Children's Church Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship: 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worshi

Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:30 - 11:15 with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study: 7 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bibl

Putpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CONTACT: (248) 347-7778

Mass Schedule TIME/DAY: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m Wednesday: 5 p.m. Saturday

TIME/DATE: 9:30-11 a.m. first and third DETAILS: Providing fellowship, supoort and opportunities to grow faith. Childcare available. Suggested dona tion \$20. Don't have to be a parishione

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE LOCATION: 217 N. Wing

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Ladles Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 Men's Bible Study: 9a.m. first

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYJERIAN LOCATION: 44400 W, 10 Mile Road

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. ing open to all adoptive families in Oakland County, Child care is available Registration is required.

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Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's

a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth

Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men o

LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road, Nov

CONTACT: Becky at (248) 305-5924 or

CONTACT: (248) 348-1020 unday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Saturday of every month

community-novi.org

CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or visit faith

TIME/DATE: 4:30 p.m. every Wednesday Creed in scripture and song:

CONTACT: (248) 349-0720 or novili-Health Improvement is launching this brarv.org golf season with their third annual place at the library.

DETAILS: The Botsford Center for expo designed to make your first round of the season successful and pain-free. Botsford exercise physiolo nists and a PGA pro from Western Hills

Food Pantries.

Botsford's Golf Expo

Golf & Country Club in Redford will help motivate you and help prepare for the upcoming season. The expo will feature a swing analysis booth and a "Benefits of Golf Conditioning presentation. CONTACT: Please call (248) 473-3100 to register or for questions.

Shared Hope International
"TIME(OATE) 4"5" p.m. Sunday, April/2610
LOCATION: Choi Kwang-Do Martial Art 24404 Catherine Industrial Road, Suite

DETAILS: This is an anti-trafficking awareness event. Nancy Winston National Awareness associate and member of the Board of Directors for Shared Hope International will be tray eling from Virginia for these presenta tions. Pre-registration is appreciated CONTACT: Visit www.christoursavion register. For more information on sex

trafficking visit www.sharedhope.org BUSINESS

Novi Rotary Club TIME/DATÉ: Noon every Thursday LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church

online at hometownlife.com

41671 W. 10 Mile Road

American Business Women's

TIME/DATE: 6:15 p.m. second

Wednesday of every month LOCATION: DoubleTree Hotel-Novi

96 @ Novi Road, near Bally's)

or scholarships.

Economic Luncheon

(42100 Crescent Blvd., southeast of I

DETAILS: Local chapter provides many

advantages to today's working women

and offers a strong community service program that includes raising money

CONTACT: (248)-330-6315 or abwa-novi.

2009-11 Economic Forecast for

Dakland County At 24th Annual

TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Rock Financial Showplace

DETAILS: Top economists from the

University of Michigan will present

their report on the economic future

Economic Outlook Luncheon. The

2009-2011 Employment Forecast for

Oakland County, a joint venture of

Dakland County Planning & Economic

Development Services (PEDS) and

the Institute for Research on Labor

Employment and the Economy at

the University of Michigan, will be presented at the luncheon, schedu

Oakland Community College and

CONTACT: Register online at www.

Nancy Nagy at 248-858-8706.

Novi Public Library

LIBRARY LIMES

LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road

HOURS: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday

Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and

Unless noted below; all programs take

DETAILS: Card holders can check out

free passes, for two to four people, to

many area museums, cultural centers

turepass.org for more information.

TME/DATE: Noon to 1:30 p.m. second

DETAILS: Book discussion group for

older adults facilitated by librarian;

TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. third Wednesday of

DETAILS: General meeting of the entire

Library Board, Broadcast live on cable

TIME/DATE: 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, April

DETAILS: American Idol for the pre-

school set. Spend 30 minutes letting

your child showcase his/her talents

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, City

Museum Adventure Pass

Senior Book Discussion

Thursday of each month

please call to join.

Library Soard Meeting

Oakland County. The cost is \$40 per

from Hosts for the luncheon are Chase

DETAILS: Lunch is \$10 at meeting.

Visitors welcome. Check Web site fo

speaker information; novirotary.org.

LOCAL EVENTS

Professional Children's Theater Series

TIME/DATE: All shows 7-8 p.m. Cirque

DETAILS: Providence Park is sponsoring

Novi Community Education in offer

Series. Each show is \$5 per ticket

How to Backpack Around the World

TIME/DATE: 3 p.m. Saturday, April 18

DETAILS: Backpacking around the

is possible for the average person to

achieve," says Robert Downes, author

of the new book, "Planet Backpacker.

Democrats of West Oakland County

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 LOCATION: Maple Restaurant and

DETAILS: Jessica Cooper, recently

Golf, 31260 Wakefield Drive, on 14 Mile

elected Dakland County prosecutor or

a County Prosecuting Attorney, Bring

a can of food for the Oakland Count

Foodbank. CONTACT: Jim at (248) 624-7228

Guernsey Farms Dairy Open House

LOCATION: Guernsey Farms Dairy

DETAILS: Guernsey Farms Dairy will

open its doors to the public for a tou

The tour is free, and quests are asked

to bring a non-perishable food item or

make a monetary donation to the Nov

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday,

LOCATION: Botsford Center for Health

Improvement located at 39750 Grand River Ave, in Novi

Swing Back Into Golf Season at

TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday,

ing a Professional Children's Theater

Amongus, Friday, April 24

Performing Arts Center

LOCATION: Novi Middle School

a supportive setting. Sing songs from our repertoire or prepare your own TIME/DATE: 10:30-12:30 p.m. Monday, April 20 DETAILS: Learn now to navigate this

Noon: Lunch 12:30 p.m.: Dupt. Bridge

LOCATION: Localed in the Meadowbrook Commons Senior Massage by appointment: 1-4 p.m. Saturday Thursday 9-11 a.m.: Line Dance

9-3:15 p.m.: Hearing exams by appoint 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: income taxes by appointment

Noon: Lunch 12:15 p.m. Contract Bridge 9 a.m.: Stretch & Strength O a.m.: Body Recall

tation by a group of participants who read from a script and present their TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Mary show without costumes of scenery. 19 and 20 You will be given a nart, a script, and Learn about Modern Roundahouts Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks have a month to practice on your own, and you will present your performance Retirement Community

ers on May 13. All About E-Mail for Seniors FIME/DATE: 1-3:00 p.m. Wednesday DETAILS: Learn the basics of sending

huge genealogy database and inves

tigate its powerful search features

understanding of using the mouse

Library Tech Time

and internet searching is necessary

TIME/DATE: 7, 7:15, 7:30 p.m. Monday.

DETAILS: Fifteen-minute one-on-one

tutoring with either a librarian or

omputer tech on a topic of you

choice. Investigating your family tree?

We have the tools to help. Registration

Microsoft Word have you stumped?

Readers' Theater Organizational

Meeting TIME/DATE: 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 21

DETAILS: Readers' Theater is a presen-

and receiving e-mail, and sign up for a free e-mail account. This class includes interactive discussion and hands-on English Conversation Group TEME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, April 22 DETAILS: Explore the wonders of the night skies from the comfort of the Library, Shows will begin every half

hour, starting at 1 p.m., and are limited

Wixom Public Library LOCATION: 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom lunch.html. For more information, call HOURS: 10 a.m. to 8 n.m. Monday: Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

to 30 participants.

CONTACT: (248) 624-2512 or visit wixom-DETAILS: Card bolders can check out Novi City Council Meeting ree passes, for two to four people, to many area museums, cultural centers and historical sites. See detroitativen

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. lurepass.org for more information TIME/DATE: 3:30 p.m. every Thursday CONTACT: (248) 347-0470 DETAILS: Coffee and conversation Novi Youth Assistance General Improve your English speaking skills by Citizens Meeting TIME/DATE: 6 n m first Triesday of each speaking with people from other cour LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. No tests; instructor help; free. CONTACT: Karin at the Information 10 Mile Road

NOVI SENIORS

Novi Community Education Novi Senior Activities Center CONTACT: To register, call (248) 449-1206 or visit novi.k12.mi.us/district/ communityeducation FIME/DATE: 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 28-June 16 LOCATION: Novi Middle School

DETAILS: An introductory German class for those who have never had German before and would like to start to learn this language and culture at any age and any speed! Learn basic expressions and topics to get you around in Germany for travel, fun, and socia communication. Understand the culture and its differences in social and

on speaking the language, but you will also learn grammar, reading, and writing to help provide for well-rou language proficiency. The fee is \$ 79 (information about book purchase will be given at first class)

Elementary Italian TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, April 20- June 15 (nmit May 25) DETAILS: This class will introduce stu dents to the Italian Janguage and culorammar and sentence structure. while acquiring useful vocabulary for travel and conversation. No previous Italian experience required. Please bring a three-ring binder. The fee is

Beginning Japanese IME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday. April

DETAILS: This is a great introductory class for those who want to learn basic Japanese vocabulary and sentence structure. The class is designed to proide a foundation for those who wish to continue the study of the Japanese language either in a classroom or on their own. We will also work on ornnunciation, reading and writing, while

learning about the culture and people

of Japan. The fee is \$78 (information about book purchase will be given at first class)

TIME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Apri 21-May 26 I OCATION: Novi Middle School DETAILS: This class will focus on helping students learn how to pronounce ask questions, thus practicing vocabu

lary and sentence structure. Cultural ormation will also be part of the curriculum. No prior knowledge of th language is necessary. The fee is \$84 information about book purchase will be given at first class) ntroduction to Chinese TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, April

20-June 15 (omit May 25) LOCATION: Novi Middle School DETAILS: This is a basic and systematic introduction to the Chinese language and its culture. You will master the hasic skills of listening speaking reading and writing through practicing vocabulary and sentence pattern drills. It is designed for those who don't have any foundation of the language, as well as those who want to reinforce the knowletine. The fee is \$72 (information about book purchase will be given at

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to ache at the end of the day."

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Making Life







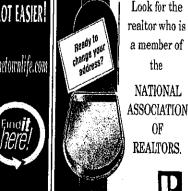












NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

LOCATION: 41875 11 Mile Road, #201, (248) 349-3743 or www.novichamber.

TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday

OCATION: Novi Civic Center DETAILS: Hosted by The Relational Church, Call (248) 767-8626 for more

Novi Business and Taste Expo TIME/DATE: 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, April

> LOCATION: Hotel Baronette, 27790 DETAILS: Sponsored by the Novi Chamber of Commerce and the City of Novi. Networking, cash bar, and Membership Lunched

TIME/DATE: II:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 6 LOCATION: Sheralon Detroit Novi, 2111 łaggerty Road, Novi DETAILS: Join a delicious lunch and

networking at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Sponsored by: Dr. Patrick Datsha Business to Business Breakfast at Sports Club of Nov

Gardeners of Northville and Novi

lelevision studio.

TIME/DATE: 8-9 a.m. Wednesday, May Monthly Meeting ardeners Of Northville & Novi Business to Business Breakfast at Social Time & Garden Lecture on Pruning Plants. TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. second Monday

ONGOING

American Legion Post 19 Monthly

TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. third Tuesday

Entrance 46100 Grand River Avenue

DETAILS: Comrades and fellow yet

erans, join our monthly meetings.

Attendance is needed to grow our

Post. If you are not a member, con

CONTACT: Commander Dennis Strikulis

(248) 378-7841, dstrikulis@twmi.rr.com or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248)

344-7193, pnerick@apl.com

LOCATION: 33300 Nine Mile Road.

Farmington. DETAILS: Come in for an up-close

CONTACT: Melissa Cohn (248) 473-

Check us out on the Web every day at

hometownlife.com

look at the Southwest Oakland Cable

Commission Studios local community

SWOCC v Studio Tours

sider joining.

LOCATION: Northville Art House'at 215 W. Cady Street, Northville DETAILS: "Gardeners Know All the Dirt" with Jane and Alan Geisler, at the Northville Art House, 215 W. Cad every month LOCATION: Rock Financial Center, East Northville, Social at 6:30 p.m. and program at 7 p.m. Public welcome. CONTACT: Marcia (248)349-2352 or visit www.gardenersnorthville-nov

of month, Sept. May

Line Dancing DATE: Mondays and Fridays TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginners; 7:30-9:30 p.m. intermediate LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W to Mile Road DETAILS: No partner needed; pay-asyou go. Novi residents \$5, non-resi-

Novi Toastmasters TIME/DATE: 7-8:45 p.m. first and third Tuesday of each month LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room, 45175 W. 10 Mile

DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you

improve your communication skills; voice your opinion; polish your pre-sentations and practice leadership. CONTACT: Amy (248) 752-2800.

ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE

46100 Grand River Ave. CONTACT: Call (248) 348-5600 or visit http://rockfinancialshowplace.com/ for more information Parking is \$5 for most events. Great Lakes Art Fair

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday,

April 17; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and DETAILS: The Great Lakes Art Fair replaces the successful fouring Sugarloaf Art Fair, which has visited the area hi-annually for the past 10 years. The Great Lakes Art Fair will combine exclusive and desir able works from local, regional and ational artists.

2009-11 Economic Forecast for Oakland County at 24th Annual TINE/DATE: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

> DETAILS: Top economists from the University of Michigan will present their report on the economic future of Oakland County at the 24th Annual Economic Outlook Luncheon on

April 30. The 2009-2011 Employment Forecast for Oakland County, a oint venture of the Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services (PEDS) and the Institute r Research on Labor, Employmen and the Economy at the University of Michigan, will be presented at the uncheon. Hosts for the luncheon a Chase, Dakland Community College and Oakland County. The cost is \$40 per person, Online registration begins March 16. CONTACT: Call (248) 858-8706 for information.

Michigan International Women's

TIME/DATE: Thursday & Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 n.m.: Sunday, It a.m. to 5 p.m.: Thursday, April 30 -Sunday, May 3 , DETAILS: Admission for Adults \$9 a the Door: Youth (6-12) \$5: Children Under 6 free with Paying Adult: Discount Tickets at Kroger for \$7. CONTACT: www. InternationalWomenShow.com

Great Lakes Mega Meet Scrapbook TIME/DATE: Thursday & Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday May 7-Salurday May 9 are invited to join approximately

9,000 other guests for the "The Ultimate Cropping, Shopping, Learning Experiences!" at the 10th annual Great Lakes Mega Meet Guests can register for profession ally-led classes, evening crop parties and browse booths from over 75 vendors, Scrapbookers and Crafters are invited to celebrate the event's 10 successful years in Michigan on May 6 from 7-9:30 p.m. for a special birth day party. Cost is \$25. Throughout the May 7-9 event, guests will learn new techniques, shop for the latest products, and scrapbook their special memories throughout the weekend. Registration is open now and walk-ins are welcome the days of

com or call (248) 583-7133 for more information, to register for classes or purchase tickets.

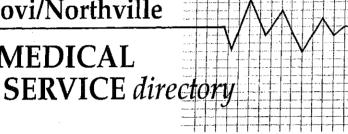
Matar City Comic Can - 28th

15-Sunday, May 17 DETAILS: Adults One Day: \$20, Weekend: \$50, Kids: One Day: \$10, Weekend: \$25

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St. John Providence Hospital LOCATION: 47601 Grand River Ave., corne of Beck Road, use Beck Road entrance Providence Center for the Healing Arts http://sliohn.org/ProvidenceHealingUri LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601

HEALTH

CONTACT: (248) 465-5455 or e-mail lames Tester@stjohn.org TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. second Tuesday of DETAILS: Beginners welcome. Ceramics Class

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monda

Yoga I; 6-7 p.m. Monday-Yoga for Special

Meeds Children: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesday-

inyasa; 9:30-10:30 Tuesday-Yoga for

Backs; 11-11:45 a.m. Tuesday-Meditation;

12:30-1:30 p.m. Tuesday-Yona for Seniors

:30-1:50 Tuesday-Meditation; 6:45-7:45

a.m. Wednesday-Level II: 11:45 a.m. to 12:15.

p.m. Wednesday-Yoga for Backs; 1:30-1:50

n m Wednesday-Meditation: 6:45-7:45

a.m. Thursday-Vinyasa; 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Thursday Yona for Backs: 6:45-7:45 p.m

Thursday Yoga for Backs; 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Thursday-Slow Flow with Prenatal: 6:45

7:45 p.m. Thursday Yoga for Backs; 8:30-

Meditation; 9:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday

t 2:15-3 p.m. Saturday-Kid's Yoga II

DETAILS: \$10/walk-in, \$80/10-class

card, \$45/five-class card, Lunch and

Registration required. Classes also hel

at Providence Hospital, Southfield, Call

DETAILS: Therapeutic massage is effec-

tive for stress and tension, chronic fatigue, pain and headaches. Everyone

Welcome, Patients undergoing treatment

should bring a physician's referral, \$50

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-noon each Monday

our peaceful and inspirational creative

DETAILS: Express yourself artistically in

a variety of techniques and projects, \$5

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. the fourth Thursday

DETAILS: Join volunteer artist Darcel as

Explore Art and Color with Darcy

for details.

Massage Therapy

Create with Janis

suggested per session

8-Week

pring Session

March 16-21 Current Student Enrollment

of every month

TIME/DATE: By appointment

p.m. Tuesday-Night Lite Yoga; 10-11:30

CONTACT: Visit www.megameet DETAILS: Explore the Art of playing with clay. Express yourself in this three-dimensional art form. \$10 lab fee. Call to verify class times.

Anniversary TIMF/DATE: Friday, 12:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, May

she guides you in transforming an ordi nary block of wood into a multi-dimensional work of art. Cost is \$5 per session. Know Before You Go

CONTACT: Call (248) 465-4488 for a recording of the latest in class changes Plastic Surgery Dinner with a Opctor TIME/DATE: 6:30-8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 23 LOCATION: Dinners are held in confer ence rooms A, B and C

DETAILS: Each month Providence Pari Hospital hosts a "Dinner with a Docto about current topics in healthcare. Join us for a dinner, health presentation and 0.6 A. There is no charge to attend. This month's topic is "Things You Should Know about Plastic Surgery" presented by Aviles. Alberto J. MD. ONTACT: To sign up, please call 1-888 440-7325 so that we can anticipate the

number of attendees.

Knittin' Yarns TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., Wednesday Botsford Center for Health DETAILS: Join others and create hats and

shawls for those in need. OCATION: 39750 Grand River Ave CONTACT: (248) 473-3100 TIME/DATE: Meditation for individuals or Aqua Boot Camp IME/DATE: 4-5 p.m. every friday groups by appointment. DETAILS: Learn proper breathing tech-DETAILS: Get fit with a combo of strength niques that can be used at home or on and cardio in the lap pool. Pool is four the job to help reduce stress; class held in reflection space; Cancer Center, resistance while still being able to touch Therapeutic Yoga Free for BCHI Members, Non-members TIME/DATE: 12:30-1:30 p.m. Monday-Yoga may purchase a \$75 10-visit punch card. for Backs; 1:30-1:50 p.m. Monday-For information or to register, call (248) Meditation; 4:15-5 p.m. Monday-Kid's 473-3100 Yoga II; 5:05-5:50 p.m. Monday-Kid's

TIME/DATE: 11:15 a.m.-noon every Tuesday DETAILS: Create harmony and balance more flexible and balanced. A chair or hallet har is provided for assistance may purchase a \$75 10-visit punch card, For information or to register, call (248)

Oakland Physical Therapy Classes Suite 365, Novi CONTACT: (24B) 380-3550 Classes are free of charge

Yooa Classes TIME/DAY: 7:15 p.m. Mondays; 10:15 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesdays

10 a.m. Friday-Ashlanga; 12:30-1:30 p.m. Friday-Yoga for Backs: 1:30-2 p.m. Friday-LOCATION: Pure Barre Fitness Studio, 133 W. Main St., Northville Level I/II; 10:45-11:45 a.m. Saturday-Yoga DETAILS: Classes feature "Pure Yoga" to for Backs; 1:15-2 p.m. Saturday-Kid's Yoga increase one awareness of breath and body while building a strong, flexible back and core. CONTACT: (248) 305-8414

> CVS/Pharmacy Diabetes Day TIME/DATE: 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, May 5 LOCATION: CVS, 42191 14 Mile Road, Nov In the Maples of Novi Place, 14 Mile And Novi Road-At the Pharmacy DETAILS: Free information on Diabetes Blood sugar and Blood Pressure check available: Pharmacists on hand for medication questions and concerns. Diabetic Educator on hand for lifestyle questions. Pharmacy Reps on hand to more. In addition, the CVS/Pharmacy Will be raffling off Jonas Brother's World our Concert Tickets! Enter to win two lickets for the July 26 concert at The Palace of Auburn Hills, All Donations Research Foundation.

Drawing will take place mid July.

Symnastics

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CONTACT: (248) 926-2452

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6730. Florence Voight (248) 477-3032. Joy lovaldi (248) 348-9138 or joylovaldi earthfink.net

nsington Yalley Mothers of Multiple TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second Thursday of each month choice, please call (248) 471-0415.

000000

\$248

Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. last Wednesday of each month LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church and around the Kensington Valley so conference are all welcome. CONTACT: (248) 437-5496 for more information. 24505 Meadowbrook Road DETAILS: Informational meeting open to all adoptive families in Oakland County No charge. Child care available; registra

CONTACT: Lisa Molloy (248) 334-3595 ent Support Group TIME/DATE: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesday of each month LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10

Mile Road DETAILS: Provides the opportunity for those in grief to share their story and to learn about the phases and tasks of grief. All are welcome; no fee. CONTACT: Michael M. Meyer, Doctorate of Ministry

Angela Hospice Groups LOCATION: Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newhurnh Road 1 Ivonia DETAILS: Grief support groups include general grief, loss of a spouse, women's orief, parents who have lost a child and a grief support quilters group. Group: led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers.

CONTACT: Joan Lee (734) 953-6012 General Grief Support Groups TIME/DATE: 1-6:30 p.m. second and fourth DETAILS: Open to all losses. Loss of Spouse/Significant Other Support

TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. first Tuesday of TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. fourth Monday of month

Suicide Loss Support Services DETAILS: Individual and family service: offered free for those who have lost a 7810 for more information Heartstrings; Parents Who Have Lost a

TIME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. first Thursday of Grief Support Ouilter's Group TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. first and third Wednesday of month

leighborhood Baby-sitting Co-op DETAILS: Using the co-op; you and your children can make friends and get wha you need accomplished without the li ones in tow. Also enjoy a mom's night ou CONTACT: Sue Tracz (248) 380-0998.

Friendsblo Circle IME/DATE: 1 p.m. second Thursday o each morith" LOCATION: St. James Catholic Church

DETAILS: Social group for all widows and widowers. CONTACT: Norbert Monson (248) 851-

LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot; 300 Dorothy

DETAILS: This group provides information sunnorl and social activities for mothers of multiple birth children and their families. Mothers of multiples living in

RECIONAL

Oakland County League of Women Voters holding Observer Workshop TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 LOCATION: Heritage Park's Vagnozzi visitor Center, 25099 Farmington Rd, in DETAILS: The League of Women Voters Cakland Area invites the public to an

nteractive Observer Workshop on at to help citizens in making government more ansparent and participatory. Observers attend local governmental meetings. learn what their government is doing, the issues facing their community and how they are being addressed. They promot government openness and account ability. The workshop, will provide easily accessible resources and tools to support active citizen monitoring of public

CONTACT; For more information, call 248-594-6602 or see Event Calendar on www LWVOA.org

Weight Watchers Meeting-New Session TIME/DATE: 11-11:30 a.m., Thursdays, start ing April 23 LOCATIONS; Ward Evangelical Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Room 105 when and how to eat? Then join Weight Watcher's New Momentum Program.

stop dieting and start living. In a supportive environment receive information on healthy habits, exercise and making smart food choices. CONTACT: Women's Ministries at (248)

Qakland County Historical Commission Hosts Free Workshop

TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. to noon followed by an optional session from noon to 2 p.m Salurday, April 25 LOCATION: Covert Center (Scott Lake and Pontiac Lake Roads) in Waterford DETAILS: Bringing Local History into the Classroom - The Oakland County Historical Commission is hosting a History to the Classroom" series, A lim ited number of participants a visit to an Farmstead where archeologists will show how it is being used by students now.

and funded in part by a grant from the Waterford Schools TAH Project. CONTACT, For information about the

Suburban Republican Women's Club TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Thursday, April 23 LOCATION: Pick-A-Bone Rib House, 30325 Six Mile Rd., Livonia DETAILS: The speaker will be Mary Ann Wheeler, Tour Guide, Plymouth Historical Museum "The Family Life of Abraham Lincoln". The cost for the dinner is \$16. Visitors and guests are always welcome CONTACT: For reservations and menu

please call its chair. Jennifer Raddiff, at

248-625-8181.

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Your tax refund: Invest today for tomorrow's goals

The tax-filing deadline arrived this week. Will you be getting a refund? If so, take the time to consider how best to use it - becauwhen used wisely, your tax refund can give you a few added steps on the road toward achieving your finan

cial goals.

Of course, if you filed your taxes weeks ago, you might have already received a refund. But given the current nment, you might have kept the money in a "holding place" while you waited for an uptick in the financial markets. At any rate, if you have access to a refund this year, you now

have the opportunity to put that money to good use. How? Here are a few ideas: Help fund your IRA. In 2008, the average federal tax refund was \$2,429 according to the Internal Revenue Service. If you were would cover almost half of your IRA contribution for this year, as the annual limi is \$5,000. (You can put in \$6,000 if you're 50 or older). A traditional IRA grows tax deferred, while a Roth IRA grows tax free, provided you have held your account for at least five years and don't take withdrawals until you reach age 59-1/2. Your IRA may have taken a hit last year, but if you fund it with quality investments and avoid making withdrawals until retirement, you can

take important steps to help rebuild your portfolio. ■ Help build an emergen cy fund. You could use part of your refund for an IRA and part to help build an emergency fund. Ideally, you should have six to 12 months' worth of living expenses in a liquid account to help pay for unexpected costs, such as a major car repair, a new fur-nace or a costly medical bill.

Without such an emergency fund, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for these costs - and that can hurt your progress toward your financial objectives. Help rebalance you portfolio. Based on your risk tolerance, time horizon

and long-term goals, you may have decided to put a certain percentage of your assets in "growth" vehicles and a certain percentage in income-oriented investments. At that point, your portfolio was in equilibrium But during the long bear market, your portfolio may have sustained enough losses to become "unbalanced." In other words, some of your so much value that they no longer make up the percent-age of your holdings that you had originally intended. Of course, you could wait for back — and they may, given enough time — but if you wanted to speed up the rebalancing process, you could use your tax refund to add the right types of new investments to your mix. Ironic as it may seem.

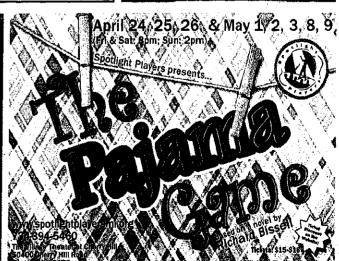
year in which to invest you refund. You can find many sonable prices today, so your refund can help you add extra shares to your account – and the more shares you own, the better off you may around. So put your refund

to work soon This article was provided by Mark Whitfield, Novi financial adviser 43290 11 Mile Road, Novi 48375.

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Company announces staff cuts, end to Eccentric editions

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, April 16, 2009

Hometown, Observer & Eccentric and Mirror newspapers announced Monday changes that will eliminate several newspaper and Web editions and reduce staffing throughout the company.

O&E will cease publica-

tion of five Eccentric editions on May 31: Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Troy and Rochester

In addition, the Southfield edition and O&E's Mirror Newspaper will become part of a new, multi-community Sunday newspaper, the South Oakland Eccentric, which will serve the southeast cor-

ner of Oakland County. The closure will result in workforce reductions of approximately 44 people in all departments — advertising, editorial, circulation and production.

"These expense reductions are a direct effect of our challenging economy and changing media landscape," said Susan Rosick, executive editor of the Observer & Eccentric/Mirror/Hometown Newspapers. "These decisions, as difficult as they are to execute and to accept, position the newspaper for the future — a future that

includes multiple platforms of news and advertising."

The newspaper com-pany will continue to pub-lish the Hometown Weekly Newspapers in western Oakland County and the Observer Newspapers in western Wayne County. The company also provides news and information on the Web at www.hometownlife.com.

Rosiek met Monday with employees and representatives of employee unions to inform them of these deci-

The newspapers are owned by Gannett Co. Inc.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

Shakespeare-inspired play closes season

Northville's Tipping Point Theatre will close its season with a zany, irreverent send-up of Shakespeare, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)," by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield.

Directed by Tony Caselli, "The Complete Works ..." opens April 25 and runs through May

Performances at the 361 E. Performances at the 361 E. Cady St. theatre are scheduled at 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; at 3 p.m. Saturdays (with the excep-tion of April 25); and at 2 p.m.

Ticket prices range from \$18-28. Preview performances, which include a post-show dis-cussion with the director and cast, are at 8 p.m. on April 22, 23 and 24.

"The Complete Works ..."
is a coproduction between
Tipping Point and Williamston Theatres.
Tickets are available by calling the box office at (248)

NOVI — In celebration of Earth Day, Macy's is helping to raise awareness and generate funds for

parks and environment-friendly

causes across the country with its Macy's Turn Over a New Leaf

campaign. Throughout April, at all Macy's locations, customers can purchase tickets for One Good

Thrn, Macy's April 25 national charity day shopping event. For \$5, customers will receive a ticket for

\$5 off a \$15 storewide purchase, as

Macy's will donate 100 percent of ticket sale proceeds to the National Park Foundation and local par-

ticipating nonprofit organizations that protect and conserve the envi-ronment. Macy's also is offering

new reusable totes for \$1.95 with

BIRMINGHAM - Don

Thomas Sporthaus, the Midwest's premier ski shop, is currently hold-ing their annual end-of-season

sale event. The sale concludes on Sunday, May 3. All items will be

Foundation.

SNOW GEAR SALE

a \$1 donation to the National Park

ell as an all-day shopping pass for 20 percent off most merchandise

MACY'S EARTH DAY



347-0003. Box office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday - Friday; noon to 5 p.m. Saturday; and 90 minutes prio

to all performances.
With daredevil speed and precision, three actors bring the entire Shakespeare canon to the stage – all 37 plays in 97 minutes. Audience mem-bers should be prepared to laugh until everything burts as three actors zoom forward, backward (literally) and upside down through some of the

greatest plays ever written in the English language. "The Complete Works ..." ran for 10 years on London's West End and has been called "witty and wonderful" by Chicago Tribune critics.

Caselli, an accomplished director, makes his Tipping Point debut with this play. He serves as artistic director of the Williamston Theatre, where the production will take place in July. He has directed at Performance Network, Purple Rose Theatre, Michigan State University and numerous other Michigan theatres.

The cast includes Laurel Hufano of Ferndale, Aral Gribble of Pinckney and critione of Finckney and Kevin T. Young of Ferndale. Hufano previously starred on the Tipping Point stage in the popular farce "Don't Dress for Dinner," for which she received a Wilde Award nomination. Gribble and Young are new-Gribble and Young are new-

comers to the Tipping Point.
For more information, go to www.tippingpointtheatre.org.

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MALLS & MAIN STREETS

from suggested retail prices Following the sale, Don Thomas Sporthaus employees will take summer vacation and return to reopen the shop in mid-August.

Snowboard prices have been marked down 40 percent; skis are reduced by 40 to 50 percent; and other gear and apparel are reduced 40 to 70 percent. Don Thomas Sporthaus offers a variety of equip-ment, fashion-forward apparel and accessories for the winter season, including from sought after manufacturers such as K2, North Face, Obermeyer and Tecnica.

Don Thomas Sporthaus is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call (248) 220-1999 or visit www.donthomassporthaus.com.

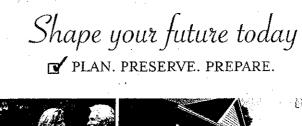
SHOP SWAD BLOOMFIELD HILLS

- Through April, donate a pair of gently used women's dress shoes and receive \$10 off a new pair of regularly priced shoes at Shoe Envy in Bloomfield Hills. All swapped shoes will be donated to several charities including. Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac, GCH rehabilitates women, help-

ing them get a second chance at life, gracecentersofhope.org Shoe Envy is located at 6606 Telegraph (at Maple), Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 539-9260 or visit www.shop-

EARTH DAY EXPO

ROCHESTER — Upland Hills Ecological Awareness Center will present the fourth annual Earth present the tourth armuat Barm Day Expo, Michigan's largest Earth Day event, in Downtown Rochester Saturday, April 18-19. The Expo, moving to Third and Water streets and expanding to two full days, is free and open to the public. It will offer more than 150 green and wellness exhibits. presentations and films, alterna-tive vehicle and energy displays, organic food service, farmers' market and petting farm, kids corner, hands-on demonstrations, music and entertainment, prize drawings, free massage and wellness activities, sustainable project and green business tours, as well as a community-building Connections Cafe. A Welcome Reception will be held 7-9 p.m. April 15 at Mind, Body & Spirits restaurant. Visit www.earthdayexpo.org or e-mail earthdayexpo@uheac.org.











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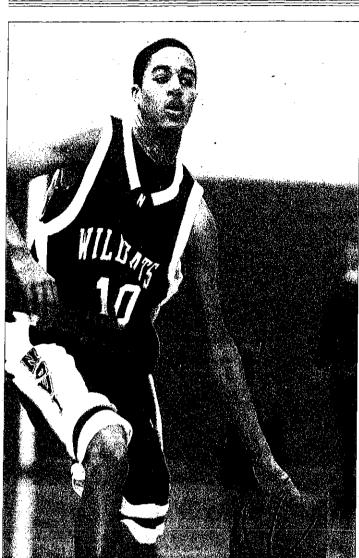
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online at hometownlife.com





Novi's Chris Bellamy leads strong All-Area basketball squad

Novi head coach Cory Heitsch could pen-cil in guard Chris Bellamy for somewhere around 20 points a game. But that was far from it. Listed at 6-2, Bellamy also led the team in rebounding with 6.5, assists at 3.8.

and steals at three a game, landing him the Player of the Year honors. "Chris truly had an unbelievably season for us," said Heitsch. "He led us in scoring and rebounding from the lead guard spot. The efficiency and consistency he displayed throughout the year was outstanding

Bellamy scored 20 or more points in 20 of 23 games with a high game of 37 points during a 71-56 win against Walled Lake Northern. Bellamy poured in 19 points in the fourth after the Wildcats trailed 51-47 carly in the final quarter.

"It was a blast just to watch Chris just completely take over a game because it wouldn't just be on the offensive end of the floor," said Heitsch. "All the sudden he is deflecting everything, grabbing every board and just drilling shot after shot.

"It was a very comforting feeling for his teammates and for us coaches."

Heitsch explains Bellamy's ability to fill the stat sheet in so many categories and come up big when the games were on the

*Of all of Chris' strengths and there are many, nothing was more evident to me over the last two years then his basketball IQ. He truly understands the game," said Heitsch. "That is why you would see a majority of his playmaking happen in crucial points of the game. It wasn't coincidence, it was him understanding time and situation."

Bellamy signed with Spring Arbor University in early February to continue his



Brett Smith helped drive the Shamrocks all the way

basketball career.
"We will miss Chris sorely," said Heitsch.

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Several players on the All-Area First Team made strong arguments for being the

Earning First-Team honors are Lakeland's Michael Fugate, South Lyon's Jordan Short, Milford's Nate Kesto and Catholic Central's Tim Dezelski and Brett Smith.

Please see HOOPS, B3

CC's Darnell ices the field

BY JEFF THEISEN

Wildcat Chris Bellamy in action against John Glen.

Catholic Central's Brent Darnell carries an good-sized 6-0, 180-pound frame onto the ice, but it's his game that really stands out. Darnell finished runner-up

for Mr. Hockey in Michigan after the Shamrocks blasted through the playoffs en route to a State title. He tallied 20 goals and had 25 assists in 30 games to earn the 2009 All-

Area Player of the Year.
The junior was voted to the Dream Team (a team made up from the best from any divi-sion), All-State, All-Catholic, First Team All-MIHL and

MIHL co-MVP. "He was the fourth pick overall in the USHL draft, which is the top junior league," said CC head coach Todd Johnson. "He's a very skilled, physical, he protects the puck, he's a great passer and he can shoot. He's got all the offensive skills you could want."

Darnell plans to play at Michigan State after his high school career ends.



JOHN KEIDER | NOVI NEWS

Novi's goalie Michael Pesendorfer makes a stab at a high shot during a game against South Lyon.

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Thomas is a hulking forward Academic All-State honors.

for high school bockey at 6-3 and right around 200 pounds. But aside from being big, Thomas used skill and soft hands to tally 18 goals and 25 assists for the Division 1 State

champion Shamrocks. He earned All-State, First Team All-MIHL, All-Catholic and

"We knew he was going to be an Ail-State type caliber player," said Johnson. "He's a big kid who has skill. He can play on the penalty kill and the power play.



Brent Darnell puts in one of his 20 goals during the season. Darnell is the 2009 All-Area Player of the Year

"Off the ice he's a great kid too. He's a captain, a 3.9 student, captain of the baseball Baker champion.

MICHAEL SZUMA - CC SENIOR Szuma helped anchor a defense that virtually shut their way out of the playoffs. The Shamrocks pulled off five

shutouts in six playoff games, including the 7-0 whitewash in the finals against Howell.

was voted First Team All-State, All-Catholic, Second Team All-MIHL, Academic All-State and Academic All-

"Michael is a shutdown defenseman," said Johnson. "He skates so well, he's physical and he's got great defensive

instincts. Szuma against the other team's best player as often as possible, and we knew we were going to win that battle."

Please see HOCKEY, B2



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Novi lacrosse chills South Lyon, 12-5

The Novi fans were cold Monday night but the Wildcat lacrosse team was hot. Novi earned a 12-5 win against the South Lyon Lions to stay per-

fect at 5-0. The Wildcat strong arm was Matt Mandeville, and he had his team behind him. Paul Favorite had an assist to Matt in the first quarter and then again in the second.

Spencer Rice passed next

HOCKEY

while Mandeville hit the top shelf again. Then in the third quarter, it was Dillon Good's turn for an assist.

In all Mandeville had four goals and one assist, to fellow attack Taylor Howell (2 goals) for a five-point night. Favorite added two goals to give him four points while Nathan Haynes had three

points with two goals and an assist to Joe Burris. Tyler Burnett fired in the final goal in the fourth quarter to give

Jack Petroskey, Aeryk Kuna, and Vince Gasparotto led the nse while Kody Tipton and

LOCAL SPORTS

Dan Burris were in goal. The next matchup for the is 1 p.m. Saturday in Novi's Wildeat Stadium against the East Grand Rapids Pioneers. The Pioneers have been the Division II State Champions also undefeated in regular sea-



TREVOR LLOYD - LAKELAND o reach the final four in

Lloyd was instant offense for the Eagles. He averaged more than two points a game with 20 goals and 34 assists in 24 games. He fin-ished a remarkable plus-31 with only 16 penalty min-

utes. "Trevor is a great character kid and a 3.46 GPA student," said Lakeland coach Charles Kennedy "He aspires to play hocke become a doctor later in

JAYSON CRONK - LAKELAND

SENIOR Cronk missed a couple of games due to injury, but still managed to rack up a staggering 47 points in 18 games (23 goals, 24 assists). 19 points (8 goals, 11 assists), He also finished the year

plus-31. "Heart and Soul of team alty minutes. (MVP)." said Kennedy. "Ho has been playing all year with lower back injury and still put up these numbers Jayson is an All-State golfer who is planning to play golf and possibly hockey at club huge part of what we did

MICHAEL PESENDORFER -

NOVI SOPHOMORE - 5144 Pesendorfer was strong throughout the year, but he played some of his best hockey during the playoffs In 26 games played, Pesendorfer (14-7-5) fin

Cronk is also a 3.25 GPA

ished with a 1,81 goals against and a 90-percent save percentage. Thanks to "Pez" and the defense, the Wildcats allowed just five goals in four playoff games

Division 2. "We only had two games in our last 10 or 12 games with more than one goal against, said Novi head coach Todd Krygier. "We finished the year with the lowest goals against average in the history of the program. I think that was a team effort, but obviously, without goaltend-

MATT KREAGER, NORTHVILLE SENIOR

Kreager anchored a defense that helped the Mustangs go undefeated in a potent KLAA Central vision that featured final and South Lyon (Division 1) as well as a potent Livonia Stevenson squad.
The senior finished with

a plus-24 and only 20 pen-"Matt was a captain on the team that led on and off the ice," said Northville head coach Clint Robert, "He was really the heart and soul in the locker room. He was a

ALL-AREA SECOND TEAM It's safe to say the All-Area Second Team looks as good as any All-Star team in the

Two defenseman that were largely responsible for CC's run through the playoffs were senior Nick Gatt and innior Steven Hensley.

First Team All-MIHL and had a large hand in the

South Lyon's Chris Eckler proved to be a talented scor er on a team that stressed defense. The senior scored 22 goals and had 21 help-Division 1 before losing to

CC, the eventual champs. Novi's Nolan Valleau led

Northville's Alec Arthur scored 12 goals and dished out 20 assist while finishing plus 29 for the Mustangs. The 5-7, 150-pound senior was also second on the team

of defense was goalkeeper Zack Cisek. He backed the entire run through the playoffs, finishing with five shutouts in six games to win

HONORABLE MENTION

Players receiving Honorable Mention include Novi's Shane McCusker and Tyler Perpieh; Catholic Central's Kyle Nelson, Dan Brown and Zack Cisek: South Lyon's Joonas Jaskari, Michael Hoy and Nick Keranen, Seth Perry, Jake Atkinson: Matt Dembicki. Derek Raymond and Alex Belanger and Milford's Alex

itheisen@gannett.com

MANAGEMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF

Good Luck to the

Novi Wildcats

from these Area Businesses

shutout streak through the

ers in 26 games as the Lions rolled into the final four of

the Wildcats in scoring with 28 points - nine goals and 19 assists. The sophomore also played the game with a chip on his shoulder as he also led the team with 60 penalty

with 22 penalty minutes. Catholic Central's last line

Gibson, Nick Rhodes, Cody Beck and Brian Clayton.

Cats sweep Country Day

Green hit a double that put

Kruse on third, A wild pitch

plated Kruse and moved Green

to third. A couple of intentional walks loaded the bases for Zak,

STORY SUBMITTED

The Novi Wildcat baseball team racked up two more wins, sweeping Detroit Country Day,

The first game was a see-saw affair as the teams traded the lead. Novi got three more strong innings from starter Alex Karas, who struck out six while not allowing any runs. Country Day took a 3-1 lead into the bottom of the fifth

when Novi scored four times,

getting RBI hits from Garrett Green and Kevin Zak in the inning. Country Day managed to score three in the seventh for a 6-5 lead, which set up another dramatic late-inning comeback

who delivery a sacrifice fly to right that scored Green with the winning run. Green also got the win in relief. NOVE 9. COUNTRY DAY 6 The nightcap was less dra-matic as Novi built up an 8-1

some late rans to make the. final margin 9-6.

Adam Paulk picked up his first win of the season, striking out six hits in his five innings

The Novi batters banged

lead before Country Day scored

After Michael Kruse walked. Nagami's three hits and three runs scored. Nick Regnier slammed a bases clearing dou ble to account for his three RBI in the game. Garrett Jewell also contribute two hits.

Third baseman Chris Slack both made fine defensive

our young pitching staff's suc-cess so far," said Novi coach nice outings by several juniors and are really hitting the ball well against some very tough pitching staffs. Defensively, we have been very sound, averag-

Novi has now won five in a

公室で

HOOPS

TIM DEZELSKI – CC SENIOR and possesses an inside-outside game on offense and a shot-blocking presence on

The 6-6 senior was one the biggest reasons the Shamrocks made a run to the final eight in the state, both figuratively

and literally.

He swatted aside 182 blocks and led the team with 684 total points.

The three-year varsity player

Dezelski is undecided on a college but plans on continue his playing career at the next

BRETT SMITH - CC SENIOR Smith was the perfect com-pliment to Dezelski. He could take the ball inside and nail the outside shot if left open.

throughout the year and was voted All-League for the second straight season. down 216 rebounds for sec-He is also undecided but ond-best at Milford as well as s on continuing his career at the collegiate level.

MICHAEL FUGATE - LAKELAND

Area Player of the Year and followed his junior season with a top-notch senior perfor mance. He averaged 18 points. and led the team to an 18-4

Fugate became Lakeland's all-time leading scorer while being an all-star off the court with a 3.96 GPA.

He will attend Saginaw Valley State University on a full scholarship. "Michael is everything you want in a student-athlete Lakeland head coach Robert Brugger said. "He was the face

of our program the last three years, and he will sorely be JORDAN SHORT - SOUTH LYON

JUNIOR. On a team that was constantly changing lineups throughout the game, Short

ends of the floor for the KLAA Kensington Conference cham Short set a set school record for assists in a season with

164, including four games of 10 or more assists. He also set the single-game steals record with 10 against Salem, averaged 7.9 points, 7.5 assists, 5.5 rebounds, and 4.0 steals a game. Short was also the team's leading rebounder from the point guard position.

"The thing that sometimes

gets lost with Jordan stat-wise is he is willing to do whatever it takes to help the team win," said South Lyon head coach Doug Host. "Sometimes that means he needs to mix it up with the big guys and grab a ton of rebounds, other time its distributing the ball and

had to pick who they wanted: 13 points and five boards for the 18-4 Eagles.

Heiman was voted FirstTeam All-KLAA the last two

Hartman was the secondleading scorer for the Lions with 8.4 a contest, tied for field goal percentage (49 per-

BRANDON BRYANT - NOVI

Revant used sneed and steals a game. In an offense Bryant often did the dirty tied for second in rebound vork needed to get his points while provided steady defense that would also lead to easy

ART DREIMANIS - MILFORD

Dreimanis was second for the Mavericks in scoring with 13 a game while hitting 45 percent of his shots, He led the team in assists with thre HONORABLE MENTION rebounding with 76 and in

three-pointers made with 30. His season-high 27 points came against Lakeland and connected on five threes and 24 points against Livonia

ERIC WEDESKY - SOUTH LYON

Wedesky was the big man in the middle with the soft shot for the Lions. He led the team

ing at 5.0 per game and led in blocked shots.

BRYCE GROSHEK -NORTHVILLE SOPHOMORE

Northville didn't have a ton to celebrate this year, but Groshek proves the future can be bright for the Mustangs. He averaged 12 points, 3,8 rebounds and 2.3 assists per

Receiving All-Area Honorable Mention are Novi's Samer Ozeir, Jeremy Mims and Nick Brockman: South Lyon's AJ Thweatt, Mike Fenner and Chance Bennett; South Lvon East's Colin Wedesky and Blake Jones; Northville's Tim Hasse and Scott Wagner Milford's Chris Cunningham and Lakeland's Matt Acitelli.

itheisen@gannet1.com

ball head coach Tom Mach will be honored with the Duffy Daugherty Lifetime Achievement Award on April 22 at Eagle Eye Golf Center in East Lansing. Mach has won nine State

titles, 14 Catholic League championships, 17 League championships and 15 regional titles in 33 years at the helm. teacher at CC for 32 years, has coached 60 All-State football players, four All-Americans

CC'S MACH TO RECEIVE DUFFY young men during their time at Catholic Central. DAUGHERTY AWARD

SPORTS SHORTS

NOVI LADY WILDCAT BASKETBALL CAMP

Novi varsity head coach Bill Kelp will run a basketball camp 8:30 a.m.-noon June 22-26 at the high school for girls entering grades 2-9. The camp will be split into grades 2-5

The camp will emphasize all phases of the game and includes trophies and a T-shirt and outdoor basketball. Cost of the camp is \$140. To register, call (248) 449-

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As I walked the course up and down

As I walked the course up and down the hills, I had flashbacks to great Masters' moments. Jack's charge and victory in 1986, Scott Hoch's missed 2 foot putt on =10 in 1989, Greg Norman's collapse against Nick Faldo. They say the

tournament doesn't start until the back 9

on Sunday. The front 9 is incredible. The

back 9 is even more spectacular starting

As a lifelong fan and avid golfer, the dream has always been to visit the nament. When you enter your lasters fournament, when you enex y
ixth decade, having a bucket list (as in
what I want to do before I kick the bucket) seems pretty natural Wednesday of the 2009 Masters Tournament, I was able to check off attending the Masters

Harding was another three year player at CC that helped Tournament from my list. turn the program from a basement dweller to an elite Countless authors have documented He scored 563 points on the year and will attend Hillsdak

next year.

Heiman played the perfect compliment to Fugate. Teams

JUSTIN HARTMAN – SOUTH LYON SENIOR

second in rebounding with 5.0 and led in charges taken and cent). He also shot free throws

Our hosts at Augusta National want the

grand sum of \$4.

Countiess authors have documented the biggest surprise —Television cannot do justice to the change in elevation from tee to green. Until you actually see it, you just cannot appreciate it. Better yet, walk all 18 holes as I did on Wednesday and truly experience it. Whoever claims that golf is not an athletic event requirin ning should make that walk and understand. Up and down the hills of Georgia, these golfers are truly world-class

Amen Corner starting with #11, a 505 gard par 4 with a pond fronting the green thosy about Large Miles 11. athletes who must be in good shape Everywhere you look is perfect green grass that is perfectly trime (how about Larry Mize pitching in to steal fairways better than some of the greens I the green jacket from Greg Nor have putted. And Massive pine trees—I was challenged to find a pinecone or two to take home since the maintenance staff 1987). Next #12, a short 3 par of 155 vards that is devilish due to the swirling Georgia winds. Next up, #13, a 505 yard par 5 that challenges the players to get home in two for a shot at an eagle shelf and another for a friend's.) The (remember Curtis Strange dumping his approach into Rae's Creek fronting the flowers were Azaleas of pink, purple, red and shades between with blooming white green leading to Bernhard Langer voods to contrast. Truly some ting the Green lacket in 1985). Let s eye candy! And one of the best is the Great Old Oak tree between the clubhouse and the first tee, Reported to no shead to #16 where Tiger created have been planted in 1850, it is truly a majestic tree that embodies the dignity of

with its last turn, Swoosh logo perfectly face up, falls into the hole. Wow. I watched several patrons re-enacting tha shot (without club or ball) with friends

for their own Kodak moment Onward to #18, the player is hitting their tee ball through the chute of Georgia pines. Another great climb up the hill to that final green. I recalled Ben Creashaw collapsing in tears as he rolled in his last putt to win his second green

iacket in 1995. As spectacular as it was to spend the day walking Augusta National, it got even better that evening as a guest at the annual dinner meeting of the Golf Writers Association of America. We attended to recognize our good friend and long time writer for the Detroit News, Vartan Supelian's election as President of the Kupetian's election as Presuent of the GWAA and his hosting of the Players of the Year awards. Padraig Harrington, Julie lukster, Jay Haas and Jack Nicklaus — among others — were recognized. What a ; thrill to meet htr. Nicklaus, shake his hand which the history of the production of the proand thank him for the thrills he has

provided golf fans over the years. If you are a golf fan and you ever get the chance, whatever it costs, go to Augusta National to experience walking those Georgia hills, amongst those pines and relive all of your Master's memories. Next up on my bucket list: to play August:

National! How cool would that be! David Graham is the Executive Director of the Golf Association of Michigan and lifelong fan of the game of golf.

Winner of the 2009 Masters Tournament: Angel Cabrera

ridge on the green and watched as it

Our readers predictions from an online poll:

Tiger Woods 62.5% Phil Mickelson 12.5% Padraig Harrington 12.5% Sergio Garcia 12.5%

Who will win the U.S. Open? We want your input! Visit www.hometownlife.com/section/sports25 to cast your vote!

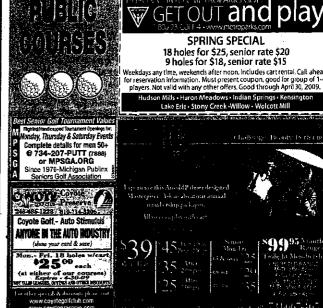
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Milford may not have put up the wins as the teams with other First-Team players, but it wasn't by lack of effort by

then there's times that he's

NATE KESTO – MILFORD

needed to score. He's success-ful in all of those roles.

"He's truly a team-first guy

Kesto. He averaged a double-dou ble with 15.5 points and 10.5 rebounds a game, while shoot-ing almost 45 percent from the field and 72 percent from the

free-throw line (115-for-160)

He consistently drew the other

team's best defender, as well as

On the season, he pulled

rebounds per game," said Lutz.

helped turn around a three "We may not have won 17 or 18 games, but we wouldn't win team his sophomore year into an Elite 8 finalist to years have won 11 games without him," said Milford head coach Chip Lutz. "Typically, he was the defensive focal point for other teams to try and contain

onstant double teams when he tried to drive to the basket. Kesto set the top two alltime single game Milford records with 21 rebounds in a He racked up 648 points game against Pinckney and 20 boards against Hartland.

> putting up consistent points "In our eight division games against Hartland, Brighton, Howell and Pinckney, Nate

Several players on the All-Area Second Team would be first-team material any other year. It just proves the competition throughout the surounding areas is very strong. STEVE HARDING - CC SENIOR

ALL-AREA SECOND TEAM

BLAKE HEIMAN - LAKELAND

SENIOR athleticism to average nine points, four rebounds and two

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A change of scenery

Brien's Services, Inc. offers affordable, reputable landscaping

BY JOHN R. HALL SPECIAL WRITER

In a tight economy, more hom-cowners are looking for a change of scenery close to home - and affordable landscaping is a great place to

start.
Sprucing up your yard with fresh flowers, plants, hardscapes and more is a great way to add value and beauty to your home.
And finding the right landscaper is easier than one might think
— Brien Worrell, owner of Brien's Services, Inc. in Milford recently way the Beauty's Choice 2009 won the People's Choice 2009 Landscaper of the Year Award from the readers of the Milford Times

The 28-year-old business has lit-erally made a name for itself with its creative and meticulous seasonal care of lawns and flowers.
"We have the history, the experi-

ence and the hands-on knowledge to serve our customers," Brien said.
"We also know that times are tough
right now with the economy, and people are trimming their spending and looking for deals anywhere they can. Our services remain affordable and we'll help you find the beauty in what you already have." Brien knows all about the beauti-

fication process, too, with his extensive history in landscaping design.

Brien's Services, Inc. 4964 Technical Drive Milford, MI 48380 248-685-7276 www.briensservices.com

He started out cutting grass at the age of 12 and has never looked back An active member of the com-

munity. Brien also knows there are many other businesses in the area that are doing what they can to provide the best service in a down economy – and the best way to do that is by providing excellent customer service.

"We keep up on all of the lat-est technology for our customers,





From April through November, Brien Worrell and his staff focus on spring clean-ups, creative landscaping and irrigation design, professional bed maintenance and everything else that goes into making your landscape look good.

from the appropriate chemicals to use on trees and plants to the latest floral and lawn trends," he said.

Knowledgeable about the West Oakland area climate, Brien remains aware of area environmental issues that can affect landscap-ing, including recent problems with the emerald ash borer and how it has drastically affected the planting

of ash trees. "There is concern for the wood wasp, which burrows into Austrian Pines," he said. "There are no known treatments for it, but we are always looking for as much information as possible, especially information coming out of the local universities."

Brien added that the wood wasps are not as serious of a threat as the emerald ash borer and there are currently no quarantines on Austrian.

Pines.
It is that type of thirst for knowledge that exemplifies the work of the staff of Brien's Services, among

"Customers call us and talk to a person, not an answering machine, Four seasons of outdoor beauty from Brien's Services, Inc.

Spring

Landscape design planning, yard clean up, ... planting bulbs

Summer

Yard maintenance, irrigation systems, pond development

Planting bulbs, fall clean-up, pruning

Outdoor holiday decor, snow removal, salting

Brien said. "We will return calls right away and can often put bids in the mail the same day if a customer

Most onsite visits can be scheduled within two days after a cus-tomer calls and are tailored to fit the customer's schedule. Brien said his customers have asked him

to build many outdoor structures including fireplaces, planters and paver-walkways, just to name a few. Tree planting is a big part of the landscape business, and Brien noted that maple and oak trees are still

very popular. The thoroughly trained landscape technicians at Brien's Service will identify what it takes to give a client a healthy, beautiful landscape, then ensure its beauty with a mainte-

nance plan.
Some of the products and services

- available at Brien's Services include:
 Creative landscape design and
- Irrigation design and mainte-
- nance,

 Bed preparation, planting and maintenance
- Lawn maintenance
 Outside holiday decorating

 Snow plowing
 As far as his commitment to the community, Brien likes to sponsor sports teams, support Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, local charities and

sponsor community events. He recently had a promotion on his business Web site that featured an Easter Egg raffle. Brien's Services is also an active member of the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce. "We believe in investing back into our community," Brien added.

Call 248-685-7276 or visit www.

Brien Worrell (right) stands with his father, Stan Worrell, in front of Brien's Services, Inc., a 28-year family owned business serving residents in the West Oakland communities and beyond.

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